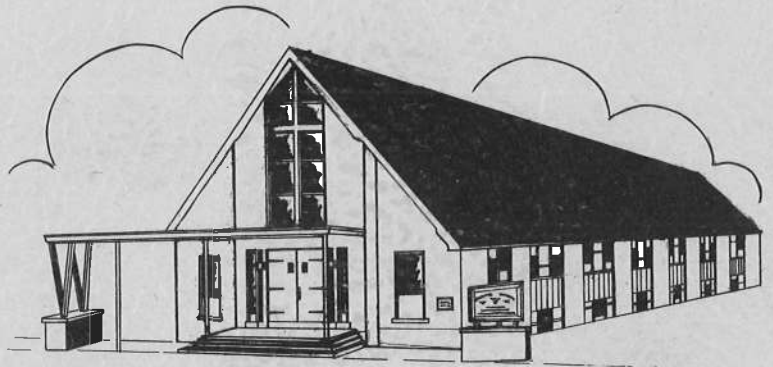


**PARRY SOUND**

**Sixty Years  
Of Service**



**PENTECOSTAL  
TABERNACLE**



Dear Lord:

We thank You for Divine guidance and help in preparing this book, as we recall the many ways you have blessed us over the years; the dedicated men and women you have sent to guide and direct us according to Your Word with Your precious Holy Spirit ever present in our midst to lead us on to ever greater things in Christ Jesus.

As we recount our blessings may we be inspired to put forth more effort to work for You, to use our God given talents to the fullest extent, to spend more time in prayer, to witness to others, that the wonderful news that Jesus saves and keeps and satisfies may be spread far and wide in our community and many more souls come to know our Lord as their Saviour.

Let us put forth a united effort to work for Thee while there is still time for the night cometh when no man can work.

We pray this book may be a source of encouragement and blessing to all who may read it and may it accomplish the purpose for which it was written to honour and glorify God.

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever.

Amen

## INTRODUCTION

It is our earnest desire, as you read this book, that you will experience some of the spirit and vision that filled the hearts of the people over the past sixty years.

This book begins sixty years ago and will follow step by step through some of the experiences and growth of the assembly. You will see how things began and little by little God added to the church such as should be saved. Each pastor with his individual ministry contributed to the growth of the assembly. You will count it a pleasure to have been able to re-live these wonderful days and experiences over again. May God bless and inspire your hearts from the pages of this book.

**Compiled & Edited by**

**Valone Sly, Eunice Morris, & Viola Haskim**





**First Sunday School at our Church, Teacher Katherine Weller.**



**Sunday School at Maple Lake: Bro. & Sis. Fred Michaelis in charge.**



**Mrs. Martha Perry**

The date hasn't been established when the Pentecostal Doctrine was first introduced in Parry Sound, but possibly as early as 1909 Mrs. Martha Perry, mother of Wesley Perry, former merchant in Parry Sound, along with her daughter Mrs. Olive Peterkin, went to their knees in prayer with a very heavy burden for souls in Parry Sound. They had been instrumental in leading Mrs. Susan Marshall and her family to the Lord and she was very zealous for the Lord witnessing to all who would listen and giving out literature so others could read of this wonderful Pentecostal experience.

Daniel and Fred Michaelis delivered milk to Mrs. Marshall's door and they received some of this literature thus creating a hunger in Dan's heart to learn more about this outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. One early morning, as he wended his way through town on his milk route, he decided to visit Mrs. Perry to ask more about the things he had heard and read. Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Peterkin had been praying all night for God to send someone who would be a leader and a pillar in the church. They arose from their knees to answer the knock on the door their faces aglow with a heavenly light and there stood the answer to their prayer. They convinced him this was of God and right there he found what he was seeking for. Sometime later God wonderfully baptized him with His Holy Spirit while riding on his milk wagon. Brother Dan faced a great many trials after his conversion. His wife, Susan, was very antagonistic at first. She burned his literature and tracts, made fun of him and put every obstacle in his way she could think of. God gave Bro. Dan the grace to stay calm and trust Him to undertake on their behalf. One night he arrived home from prayer meeting to find a party and dancing in full swing. He went quietly to his room and spent his time alone with God praying for all of them. God graciously heard and answered his prayer and before too long he was privileged to see everyone who attended that party find salvation.



**Mrs. Susan Marshall and daughters,  
Hazel and Evelyn.**



**Mrs. Olive Peterkin.**

Throughout his lifetime Bro. Dan proved to be the faithful "pillar of the church" that the sisters had prayed for so fervently. God used him in a wonderful way in praying for the sick. He was healed in 1918 of flu along with other members of his family who were delirious and one of them bleeding from the lungs. The doctor called it a miracle. A bad attack of appendicitis had him in bed until his brother Fred came and prayed for him. The Lord completely healed him and he never had another attack during his lifetime. He wore a truss for a rupture for years until he decided God could and would undertake for that too and he threw the truss under the bed and never had to wear it again. He suffered a heart attack in his 60's while helping to put a foundation under a building in Long Branch to be used for a church and Sunday School. The doctor said if they moved him he would die, but putting their trust in the Lord his son brought him home and his heart performed

steadily for nearly another twenty years. At one time he suffered several severe attacks of prostate gland trouble. The doctor arranged for an operation in Toronto and he told Sis. Garnet Michaelis that if he didn't have the operation he would die a very agonizing death. In spite of this Bro. Dan refused to have the operation as he was reminded of the many times God had healed him and he preferred to put his trust in God, claiming the promise that nothing is impossible with God and this wasn't any harder for God to heal than all the other illnesses he had been delivered from in the past. From that time on he never suffered another attack of pain, not even when at the age of 81 he took a stroke and passed peacefully away to be with the Lord.



**Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Michaelis, daughter Pearl, sons  
David and Garnet.**

Everyone who took a stand for God in the early days suffered reproach, being ridiculed by family and friends and pegged with rotten eggs and tomatoes at street meetings. God gave them strength to face persecution and through their steadfast testimony souls were added to the church.

At one time they were holding meetings in an old barn and one night while the meeting was in progress a man under the anointing quietly walked all around the inside of the building. At the same time another man who had once taken a stand for God and was backslidden was standing outside with his ear to a crack in the barn. Suddenly he felt the building tremble and he got so frightened he thought the ground was going to open up and swallow him. He ran in and straight to the altar and rededicated his heart to the Lord.

The senior members of the Michaelis family, August and Pauline, came to a service one night, along with other members of the family, and sat at the back to see what went on. A teen-aged girl noticed the strangers and started to pray for them. God began to speak through her in another



language. Mr. and Mrs. August Michaelis came from Germany and they heard her praying for them

**Mr. & Mrs. August Michaelis and family.**

**Front row, left to right - daughters Esther, Susanne, Bella, Emma, Molly, Mrs. Pauline Michaelis (mother)**

**Back row, left to right - August Michaelis, (father) sons Fredrick, George, Daniel, Benjamin, Samuel.**

and asking God to bless them in their native tongue, clear German, a language she did not know. They were firmly convinced this was real. They accepted Christ along with some of their family of eleven.

Sister Marshall opened her home for meetings that were conducted by Brother and Sister Peterkin. He worked in a lumber mill and though they were not ministers they had a message burning in their soul and wanted to share it with others. Before long more of the Michaelis family, along with others, came to know the Lord as their personal Saviour, until they had to find a larger meeting place and they rented a house at 44 Church Street. Daniel Michaelis' brother, Samuel, started the first Sunday School and taught the class. Brother Daniel Michaelis' wife, Susan, was saved and through their prayers and influence Sister Michaelis' parents, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Weller, her brother Manley and seven sisters came to know the Lord as their personal Saviour.



**Mr. & Mrs. Peter Weller and daughter Marion.**



**Standing, left to right, Mrs. Flossie McGruther, Katherine Weller, Sarah Weller, Marion Weller, a friend. Sitting, left to right, Manley Weller, Frank Welsh, (husband of Matilda Weller).**

**Some of the Weller family in later years. Left to right, Katherine Michaelis, Manley Weller, Marion Keller, Susan Michaelis, Matilda Welsh, Rose Boyd.**



Following are some of the families who were converted and attended the meetings in Mrs. Marshall's home, and also the house on Church Street: Mahaffy's, Baker's, Smith's, McGruther's, Michaelis's, Weller's, Howell's, Captain Galbraith, Welsh's, Boyd's. Also Sister Eva Hudson (nee Warner), who faithfully served the Lord in the office of secretary-treasurer of the church for many years.

Brother Fred Michaelis helped to conduct the services at this time. Brother Fred and Martha Michaelis asked God to send them another child. The doctor had said she could never have more children. God answered their prayer and blessed them with another daughter which they named after Sarah Weller. They left Parry Sound in 1921 and opened a work at Maple Lake. God blessed their ministry and the Sword family were saved and also Mrs. Smith and her daughter Louise, now Mrs. Alvin Michaelis. They later pastored at Dresden and Wallaceburg.



**Left to right, Susan Michaelis (wife of Daniel), Samuel Michaelis. 2nd row, Daniel Michaelis, Mrs. August Michaelis, Mr. August Michaelis, Esther Smith (nee Michaelis), Leonard Smith. 3rd row, Gus Pousett, Emma Pousett (nee Michaelis), Fredrick and Martha Michaelis, Oscar Pousett, Molly Pousett (nee Michaelis).**

Mr. Leonard Smith and his wife, the former Esther Michaelis, came to the Lord through the healing of their daughter, Clara, who was two years old at the time. She had a large growth on the side of her neck and the doctors were afraid to operate. Daniel Michaelis invited them to come to some revival meetings then being conducted by an Evangelist they had called in and have him pray for their little girl. They agreed to go and Mr. Smith said if God healed his daughter he would give his heart to the Lord. God miraculously healed her and a couple of days after she had been anointed and prayed for the growth disappeared. Needless to say, her parents accepted Christ as their Saviour. Some years later, when Clara was at death's door with the flu, her mother asked her Uncles Fred and Daniel and Aunt Susan to join them in praying for her. The fever broke, the delirium left, and when she regained consciousness, she asked them why they were all laughing and crying. They said "Praise the Lord, you are healed" and she got better from then on. Mr. Smith's wife Esther had the gift of discernment. They were both active in the church until their death.

Sarah Weller, after coming to know Christ as her personal Saviour, felt God calling her to go as a Missionary to India. She left her position as a teacher and tried working in an insurance office but God kept speaking to her about a mission work in India. She left that job and went to help in an orphanage in Kitchener, run by a Pentecostal minister, Reverend C. R. Miller. Sarah Weller had previously met a blind missionary in Toronto, who had spent many years in India and whose husband had just passed away. She wanted to return to India but could not go alone, so a few months later, late in 1911, Mrs. Murray and Sarah left for India. There Sarah Weller met and later married Reverend J. H. Boyce. The Lord blessed and many souls were saved as they laboured in that part of His vineyard. In 1918 she contracted malaria and went to be with the Lord after a very brief illness. She was buried on the mission station at Bahraich, India. Reverend Boyce continued to labour in India for many years.



**Mrs. Sarah Boyce (nee Weller)**



**Mrs. Sarah Boyce and some orphan children.**



**Mr. J. H. Boyce**



**Bro. & Sis. Boyce and other missionaries at the station at Barabanki India.**



**Indian Pastor, his wife and family.**





**Sis. Sarah Boyce and three other missionaries and the Ladies Bible Class.**



**Grave of Sis. Sarah Boyce in India.**

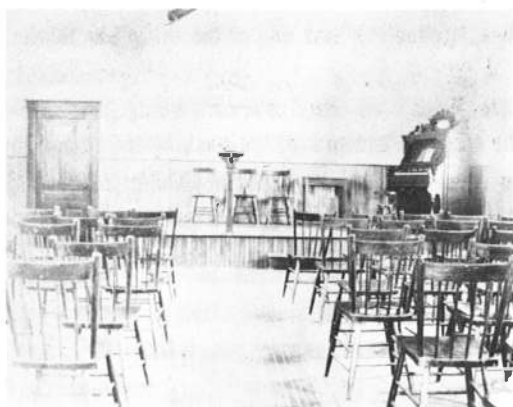


The time came when they had to find a larger place of worship. Frederick and Daniel Michaelis, carpenters and owners of a saw mill, went to the bush, cut logs, sawed them into lumber to build a church. Peter Weller donated some property owned by him on Church Street beside the Canadian National Railway track. Some of the other brethren along with Daniel, Frederick and Samuel Michaelis, built the first church around 1912.

Reverend and Mrs. George Will, who had been acting as Pastor, became the first minister of the new church. Back in the early days of Pentecost the Christians suffered many persecutions. During the first world war, on a beautiful bright moonlight night, while the Christians were gathered in the prayer room praying, Brother Frederick Michaelis heard the horses out in the driving shed snorting and whinnying. He slipped out quietly to investigate. Someone had poured kerosene on the driving shed and the back part of the church and set them on fire. Frederick ran back into the church to warn the folks in the prayer room, then rushed back to try and get the frightened horses out of the shed. They were in a panic, and not until he remembered a lap robe he had and used it to cover the horses heads was he able to lead his team to safety. Some of the others were able to lead the rest of them out and two of the men rushed to the fire hall to turn in the alarm.



**Our First Pentecostal church**



**Inside of the first church building.**

Pastor Will told the Christians to pray and he asked anyone who did not have faith to please leave. The fire brigade arrived but the chief refused to turn the water on the fire. He cursed and said 'Let it burn, then we will get rid of these crazy people'. Two soldier boys, home on leave, had heard about the money box on the wall where the folk put their tithes and offerings. They thought this was an important item to save so rushed in, kicked it off the wall and carried it out along with several chairs. The original box has been kept over the years by Daniel Michaelis and is now in the home of his son, Brother Garnet Michaelis.



**Our first parsonage.**

During this time the Christians were praying so loud they could be heard several blocks away. Peter Weller standing with his face turned heavenward, prayed 'Oh Lord, if you will please put this fire out I will pay for the shingles'. Suddenly, out of a clear sky, while the people were still praying, the rain started to pour down and within minutes the fire was out. The fire chief examined the roof, and places where the rain could not possibly reach, the fire was completely out. The shed for the horses was badly burned. Brother Frederick Michaelis had his hands burned and his hair singed, but everyone went home praising and thanking God for his goodness. Pastor and Mrs. Will left Parry Sound in 1913.



**Our first Pastor, Rev. & Mrs. George Will & family.**

Reverend and Mrs. Alex Lindsay came to take over the little assembly on Church Street. On one occasion during Pastor Lindsay's ministry and with Evangelist L. C. Hall, the Lord moved in a mighty way, saving precious souls and thirty or more were baptized in water one cold evening when the temperature outside was 58 below zero. Lila Smith, daughter of Frederick and Bella Smith (nee Michaelis), was one of the thirty candidates.

Oftentimes, as services were being held, the Pastor would have to bow to the rumble and roar of the passing trains and the engineers would really pull on the whistle. He could not shout loud enough to be heard, but tribulation worketh patience and pastor and people certainly learned patience as they sang and prayed till the train passed by.



**Rev. & Mrs. Alex Lindsay.**

The following information was taken from a letter from Sis. Ed. Pletzer.

In 1912, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Atter of Vineland, Ontario, felt the burden for Orange Valley, another community a short distance from North Seguin. Aided by Mr. Dan Falkerson they renovated an abandoned house on what was later called Zion Hill, then started visiting the homes around and inviting each family to the meetings in their house. The first one to respond to the invitation was Mr. Henry Pletzer. Soon others came out of curiosity and listened to the spirit filled messages. Conviction fell on the hearers and the people began to seek the Lord. The power fell and many received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and carried the message to friends. Baptismal services were held on the banks of the North Seguin River. Many noted healings took place as, instead of calling a doctor in sickness, the elders were called and the Lord raised them up in perfect health.

A plot of ground was donated by Mr. Alex Farrow and a church and parsonage was erected. This was called the Orange Valley Zion Hill Assembly. The house, renovated by Mr. Atter, was used as a parsonage until the new one was built under Rev. Fred Knoll's ministry. The Valley became a lighthouse and the good news spread to surrounding communities. People came from as far away as Magnetawan in buggies and democrats with hungry hearts and went away filled with the spirit to serve the Lord. The Holy Spirit called many of the new converts to the ministry. Among them, Mr. Albert Adams, known as Bert, who left his farm and he and his wife first ministered under Mr. Arthur Atter's guidance. Mr. Robert Wark, Mr. Ernie Wark, Mr. Kemp Steinberg and Mr. Joe Downing were called and ministered in different places but did not continue in the service though they were used of God for a time. Also Mr. Ted Adams, who is still pastoring one of the P.A.O.C. assemblies.

Mr. Arthur Atter ministered for several years till his health gave out. He had been a missionary in China. He left the work in Mr. Bert Adams' care, who looked after it till he was called into full time ministry and began in Kitchener, Ontario. Several tent meetings were held by Rev. George Chambers, R. E. McAllister, Miss Phoebe Holmes, and L. C. Hall. Down through the years the church was pastored sometimes by workers sent in by the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and other times by local pastors from Parry Sound, Orrville and Magnetawan. Rev. Vincent Keown and his wife are still ministering, holding a meeting in the home of Brother and Sister Ed Pletzer once a week as the people have left the farms and moved out of the community until there are only two families left. Sis. Ed Pletzer is 80 years old but is still holding Sunday School in her home.



**Bro. & Sis. Edwin Pletzer.**



**Karl & Marion Wittick.**

After Sarah Weller was saved and received the baptism she wrote to her sister Marion, who was teaching school in North Seguin, and got her interested in this Pentecostal experience. She resigned as teacher, returned to Parry Sound and took over Sarah's job in an insurance office. The pastor was holding cottage prayer meetings and in two weeks time around fourteen received the baptism. Marion Weller was one of this number. While she was under the power of the Spirit of God, with her head in Sister Bella Smith's lap, she kept crying 'Oh Africa, dark Africa'. She worked for a year and then yielded to God's will and enrolled in Elim Bible School in Rochester, New York. She met her first husband here, Karl Wittich, a Baptist minister who had received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. They were married and went to Itigir, German East Africa as missionaries.

The following is a letter written to our assembly by Mrs. Marion Wittich on April 28, 1914 from Tabora, German East Africa, after the death of her first husband, Mr. Karl Wittich.

'My dear ones at Home --- The Lord hath chastened me sore but He hath not given me over unto death, Praise Jesus. Perhaps you will wonder how Marion is, alone in Africa. I must say, after a hard siege of sickness for six weeks, I am by God's grace and power alone, able to be around again. I am not yet very strong and can only walk a few hundred yards at a time. You will understand that I am still at this Evangelical Missionary's home and am certainly very lonely without dear Karl. They treat me very kindly, but yet because I am not of the same faith they are a little distant to me, but Jesus gives me grace day by day and as I keep hid in Him He carries me along. You know there is no spirituality whatever about these missionaries. They have service just like the English church and so you see dear ones I have no one to fight the battles to the gate with me, but Bless God, He is teaching me in the heart of dark Africa to stand alone in Him.

While being so very sick and lingering many times between life and death, I could not realize that dear Karl was taken from me and since I am getting better I do miss him so, but the Lord hath given and the Lord taketh away. Although I cannot understand it at all why the two young boys, my husband and his co-worker were taken so soon. Yet I dare not reason nor complain, and must just repeat continually 'Lord thy will be done'. They were both so zealous for the conversion of the natives, their whole heart was in Africa, and to think there is such a large field of labor and so few laborers, yes who is willing to go. Karl, I know, did not think the Lord would take him home so soon as he felt there was too much work for him to do yet. He passed away so very quietly. He was very weak and could not speak very loud and would nearly always speak in a tongue unknown to me. Only the last few minutes before he breathed his last he said in English 'Jesus is coming now'. As I was so sick, they would not let me know nor see him but as his bed was not far from mine, I knew, and oh the anguish I endured. For days I could only repeat the word 'Jesus' all the time and many times yet I find no other solace and comfort but in the word 'Jesus'. The Lord must truly love me dearly, for whom He loveth He chasteneth. The other young man when he died was not so weak, but thought he was just about over the fever as he said he felt very good and Karl said he was so glad as we would have someone to wait on us a little. I was very low and he prayed for me as I never heard him pray before. Karl and Clarence would often get up, as sick as they were, and lay hold of God for me as I was so very bad and out of my mind most of the time. About one o'clock the young man said he had terrible pain in his stomach and said 'I wish I had some hot drink'. When he screamed for pain and cried for us to pray for him, I got up and lit the lamp and heated some water for him over the lamp. Karl was too weak to rise from bed. A few minutes before he died he sang in tongues as I never heard him sing before, and then all was perfect silence. He entered the gates with praise. As Karl and I were unable to do anything his body lay in the bed until Sunday noon. Friday night he died. We could not get word out to Itiger for some one to come and bury him. Dear Karl died the following Monday and Tuesday the doctor arrived from Dadoma and immediately took me, bed and all on the train to Tabora to the hospital.

I hardly knew what they were doing with me but the authorities have taken me in hand and I cannot do as I like, so dear ones pray for me. The Lord is teaching me real submission and patience here and oh how it makes me feel to think I am forced to take medicine, but Jesus knows my heart that I would sooner die than mistrust Him. They say it is just simply impossible to live in Africa unless a person takes quinine tablets

all the time and this is what the white people do here because the mosquitoes cause fever. Dear ones do not give up Africa, my heart is burdened more than ever for dark Africa. If the Lord has done nothing else, He has called and brought me into this land to see the awful condition of the heathen so I could pray more effectually for them and also to take me through this fiery furnace of sore testings and trials which He could not lead me through in the homeland, so that I should get the dross burned out of me and become more broken and transformed into His image. Oh yes beloved, God's ways are not our ways and so it pays to bend to His will and though we cannot understand it all here yet we can say 'Lord, Thy will be done' and trust Him where we cannot trace Him.

I wanted to go back to Itigir where all our things are but the doctor refused to let me go. He said I could not stand travelling nor was I able to attend to any business. I was also told I could not touch any of the things that we had brought with us and now the government man has taken everything in hand and has made the station master at Itigir the executor of everything because Karl left no will. I think he has to sell the goods and one half is to go to Karl's people and half to me. They are to have the case in court tomorrow at Dodoma but I do not have to be there. They had two soldiers watch the things so nothing would be stolen until it was sold.

It will be several months yet before I can leave Africa. I do not know yet where He would have me go but where He leads I will follow. I think I will probably go to India where Sarah is but I can intercede for Africa all the same. Africa is full of Mohammedism and oh how it makes your heart bleed to see seven or eight hundred people gather together, beat drums, shout, dance, whistle and blow horns to worship an unknown God. Oh dear ones, pray for Africa.

Dear ones do not worry about you daughter and sister Marion, Jesus is keeping her in dark Africa safely under the blood, although I neared the gates of eternity yet He saw fit to have me fight the battles of life a while longer. I am in the valley of loneliness but Jesus is with me and sees every tear that is shed. Continue to pray for me and remember your daughter and sister in Africa loves you all dearly and if the Lord tarries and permits I shall some day again meet you here on earth.

May God's richest blessing rest upon you all and thank you for your prayers and interest you have bestowed upon me in the past.

Lovingly and ever yours until Jesus comes,

Marion.

Later Marion discovered that most of their wedding gifts, clothing, etc. had been stolen by the natives. Because she was too young to remain in the country without someone to look after her she was compelled to appoint a guardian. She appointed a Moravian missionary who had been kind to her. Marion's father wanted her to return home and said he would pay her fare but she refused as she felt that her work was not finished.

God called two other young men to fill the place of those He had called home, one of the young men was Otto Keller, a very close friend of Karl Wittich. These two men sailed for Africa but when they landed they were not permitted to enter the Tanganyika territory as war had been declared. Otto refused to turn back and entered whole-heartedly into the work of the Lord at the coast, which was carried on by other missionary societies, until the way opened for him to enter the part of the country where Marion was working which was infested by the ravages of war.

Marion did not know where the two young men were and all communication was cut off for over four years. During that time Marion had many answers to prayer and God looked after her. One day a German official came and closed the mission station and took Marion and the other missionaries to prison. However, they prayed and asked God to deliver them and they were released again in a week.

One day God spoke to Marion and told her to prepare to go on furlough. In the natural this was impossible as she had not received any money for years. All the bridges down the coast were destroyed by the enemy and no transportation of any kind was available while shut in the jungles of Africa. It was six hundred miles to the coast. By faith she made application to get out of the country, which was at that time forbidden. Her application was accepted. Marion packed her belongings and set out with two mission boys. These two boys had been their first converts and one of them was eaten by a lion on the return trip. They walked to the railroad station where the station agent gave Marion a free ticket and she rode for fifty miles on a troop train, sitting on her luggage.

After arriving at Lake Victoria, where she was given sixteen porters to carry her luggage, she travelled two hundred and forty miles on foot, a route that had never been undertaken by a woman. She finally arrived at Kisumu, and after a wait of six months she sailed for home.

Marion returned to Africa in 1918 and married Otto Keller. Together they laboured for God in Kisumu, Kenya Colony.



Mr. & Mrs. Weldon P. Keller (son of Otto & Marion Keller)



Rev. & Mrs. Otto Keller and son Weldon.



**Sis. Marion Keller's Rhythm Band.**



**One of five baptismal services held in the year 1942.**



**Home of Bro. & Sis. Keller at Nyangori Mission Station, Kenya.**



**A group of Sunday School Workers at the main station.**

Starting from scratch they built up an establishment comprising of three main stations with over 200 branch churches staffed by approximately 500 pastors, teachers and evangelists. After nearly thirty years in Africa God called Brother Keller to a higher service, October 4th, 1942, after an illness of two or three years, at the age of 54. He is buried in Africa at the main station.

The following was written by an Anglican Archdeacon who had known Mr. Keller for many years. 'He was a sane and saintly man and I esteem him highly as a gentleman as well as a Christian missionary. He dearly loved the natives and they all loved him. He had no enemies and endeared himself to everyone who knew him. Always cheerful, honest and upright toward God and man'.

Sister Marion Keller carried on the work until other missionaries came to take over. She returned to this country and lived at Victoria, B. C. until she was called home to meet her Saviour, whom she loved so dearly, in 1953.

Brother Walter Mortlock followed Bro. & Sis. Alex Lindsay as pastor of the Assembly. The flu epidemic was raging about this time and Bro. Dan Michaelis and Sis. Clara Hazzard (nee Smith) were miraculously healed through prayer after they were given up by the doctor. Bro. Mortlock was the only pastor who was still a bachelor. He was a very sincere spiritual man but his stay in Parry Sound was rather short as he left in 1916.

In those days Bro. Mortlock wore ankle high boots with hooks at the top. One amusing incident Sis. Clara Hazzard (daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Smith) recalls had to do with the laces on these boots getting caught on the opposite boot while he was kneeling in prayer in his usual position, with his legs crossed. When he attempted to rise to his feet he fell over and had to sit on the floor and untangle his laces. Sister Clara got a cuff from her father for giggling.

In 1910, Katherine Weller was persuaded by Mr. & Mrs. Dan Michaelis to attend one of the services in a home. She was seventeen at the time and, along with some of her teenage friends, she went with the intention of making fun and causing a disturbance. But God had a plan for her life and she, along with her friends, got under conviction and all of them went to the altar and gave their hearts to the Lord. Katherine had planned to teach school, but after her conversion she felt led to go to her sister, Mrs. Simon Higgins, at Inholmes to try to win her and her family to the Lord. They had a large family and before long most of them accepted Christ as their Saviour. This gave her the courage to start holding meetings in the Inholmes school. She was young and attractive and sometimes it was difficult to deal with some of the lumbermen and mill workers who came to have fun and try to make a date with her. She was the first to bring the Pentecostal message to Inholmes, which later spread to North Seguin. Two of the young men of the community, Milton and Manley Higgins, became ministers of the gospel a few years later.

Sister Katherine Weller started the first Sunday School in the church in Parry Sound. She went up and down the street and invited other children to attend along with the those in the church. Some of these children and their families attending the church today are: Sis. Alice Mortson (nee Rosewell) mother of Geraldine Langford and Don and Doug Mortson; Essa Hunt, deceased, mother of Elnora Felsman; Herman Rosewell, deceased, father of Enid Michaelis and Lawrence Rosewell; Garnet Michaelis, father of Ross, Howard and June; David Michaelis, deceased, father of Murray.



Samuel & Katherine Michaelis.

Katherine taught the Sunday School until she left to attend Bible School in Toronto. She later returned to Parry Sound and married Samuel Michaelis and left to live in Kitchener for ten years. Later they pastored at New Liskeard, Cobalt, Haileybury and Maple Lake, returning to live in Parry Sound in 1929.



Bro. and Sis. Sam Michaelis, well known to so many as Aunt Katie and Sam, had such a burden for the salvation of souls. This was manifested by the hours spent on their knees in prayer before God. Aunt Katie, particularly, soaked everything with her tears as she prayed and interceded especially for the young people they loved so much. She was always ready with a sympathetic ear to listen to their troubles and to offer her help in any way she could. Their home was opened, so often, to the congregation for a happy time of fellowship and words of encouragement in the Lord. The young people were always welcomed for a social get-together, toboggan party, or such like, and so many happy evenings were spent there by the young people, with Aunt Katie and Sam enjoying it all.

They were both very active in the church and Sunday school work until a short illness for him and a lingering one for her took them both to Glory within a month in 1961. The pulpit being used in the prayer room at our present church was made and donated to the church by Bro. Sam Michaelis and continued in use as the main pulpit until 1962 when the family donated the one now in use in memory of their parents. He also made the first communion set.

A member of the congregation, Bro. Colin Woods, was not happy with the ordinary chairs used on the platform, and feeling sorry for the leaders who had to spend hours sitting on them, he built and donated two large oak chairs, Victorian style, which were used until 1962.

When the first church was built, they could not install water pressure as it was built on a rock so, as a result, most baptismal services were held at Bowers Bay, Mill Lake, the town beach or Oastler Lake. On one occasion the three Marshall sisters, Hazel, Lillian and Myrtle, were baptized at Bowers Bay. There was a baptismal tank under the platform, reached through trap doors, but the water had to be carried, from the parsonage, to fill it. Perhaps that is the one reason so many services were held at nearby waters in the summertime.

In 1916, following Bro. Mortlock's ministry, Bro. & Sis. R. E. Sternall came to take the pastorate until 1918. During his ministry he held meetings at Falding and while there stayed at the home of Bro. Charles & Sis. Rose Boyd (nee Weller). He travelled by train to and from these services and the fare was thirty cents. Missionaries, Miss Holmes and Miss Kenny, held a series of special meetings there at that time. Miss Holmes later married Bro. Spence, missionary in China. Bro. & Sis. Boyd and family often travelled the ten miles from Falding, by horse and buggy, to attend the services in Parry Sound, getting home in the wee hours in the morning.

Bro. Sternall was in rather poor health during his stay here and often found the hill leading to the church difficult to climb, but he is now 87 years old and still active for the Lord, so God certainly undertook for him. In a recent typewritten letter he mentioned that he had just learned to type. One has to admit that he has learned the secret of how



to keep young in spirit even though he is growing older in years. He wrote that he remembered souls were saved and filled with the spirit while he was here. One of his four daughters was born in Parry Sound, and is now Mrs. R. A. Bombay. All four daughters married Pentecostal ministers.



**Rev. R. E. Sternall.**



**Rev. Bert Turner**

Rev. & Sis. Bert Turner followed Rev. Sternall as our pastor. During their stay many souls were saved; among them Sis. W. Morris, her parents Bro. & Sis. Charles McLean and their eight year old daughter Viola. They followed the Lord in water baptism in the little tank under the platform along with many others. Bro. & Sis. McLean faithfully attended every service in the little church, teaching Sunday School and for many years Bro. McLean acted as superintendent. Sis. Morris was a dedicated child of God, a real prayer warrior. In later years Bro. & Sis. Morris opened their home and entertained the church people, helping the newlyweds along with showers and many other services for the Lord.



**Bro. & Sis. Charles McLean.**



**Bro. & Sis. Wesley Morris**

When Bro. Turner left, he sold his organ to Bro. McLean and in a short time, when Viola had learned to master some of the hymns, she was pressed into service to play the organ during the week. The Bible studies lasted to late that many times she had to be roused from sleep to play the closing hymn. Many camp meetings and special services were held and God blessed in a very real way, saving and baptizing many souls. A tent was erected on the ground where the present church now stands and another time one was put up in the field behind the present parsonage. A camp meeting was held on the grounds near the town beach and another tent was pitched on the site of the high school. These meetings were conducted by Bro. George Chambers, Bro. Cline and a third evangelist whose name has been forgotten. God richly blessed in these meetings and during special meetings some of the towns people claimed they could see a bright glow over our little church. Could it have been the Glory of God shining from our lighthouse on the hill?

Bro. Geo. Chambers came to be a familiar figure in our pulpit, showing a great interest in the growth and spiritual development of our little assembly as he made frequent visits to help iron out any difficulties that arose and hold evangelistic campaigns and tent meetings.

There were some month's following Bro. Turner's ministry when the church was without a pastor. Sis. Adeline Stephen came to fill in until a new pastor came. She was wonderfully used of God in praying for the sick. Many were healed and the spirit of God worked wonderfully through her.



Sis. Adeline Stephen.

Mrs. McFadden came to a healing service one afternoon with the express purpose of being prayed for. She had been lame for thirteen years with inflammation in her ankle, caused by the joint oil drying up, which left it stiff and swollen. For about a year after being released from the Toronto hospital she had walked with crutches or a cane. Later on she was able to get along without support but was never free of pain. When they anointed her with oil and prayed the prayer of faith, God touched her in a special way but healing was not instantaneous. The following evening, when there was no service, Sis. Stephen came to her home and prayed for her again. That was the night God performed the miracle. Her daughter, Lila, wasn't present at the time and she was a little skeptical but her mother was so happy and kept saying 'Look Lila, I'm healed, I'm healed' and to prove it she must have jumped the height of the table and said her foot wasn't even sore. For those of us who knew the way she had suffered it was a joy to see the way she could walk, in fact we could hardly keep up with her. Needless to say, she loved the little Pentecostal Church and seldom missed a service. Her husband and daughter came to know the Lord as their Saviour too. Lila, with her husband, Nayman Fawcett, who was also saved in our Assembly as a very young man, are faithful followers of the Lord today in the Pentecostal Church in Sudbury, Ontario.

In seeking the Lord and His word for spiritual food for His children, the only message God would give Sis. Stephen was on love, meeting after meeting. As she gave it out one Sunday morning, she, being mightily moved upon by the spirit of God, broke down at the pulpit and, with tears flowing, said to the congregation 'You will think all I can preach about is Love. This is the only message God will let me

speak to you about'. Because of a coldness prevailing amongst the members in the past few months God, through her, was drawing them together, back to their former fervent love for Him and their fellowman. The members began to, in the words of Sister Stephen, 'Come out from behind the tombstones'. Again in brokenness before the Lord they received from His bountiful hand the Holy Spirit's blessings melting them together in love and understanding. He kindled again the fire for service and worship to Him. Thus her few months of ministry as Pastor in Parry Sound both blessed and built up the church. She moved on into the evangelistic field of service for her Lord in September 1923 when the new pastor, Rev. C. F. Day, came to take over the work. She returned several times later for week-end meetings.

Brother & Sister C. F. Day and their two sons, Clifford and Irwin, took over the pastorate from September, 1923 until September, 1924. One miracle during this period was a night when Bro. McLean was very ill with double pneumonia and pleurisy. The Pastor and others came to the house and held on in prayer for hours and God heard and answered. The high fever subsided and his delirious ravings stopped. He later told us he could see a stream of water growing less and less and he knew it was his life ebbing away. God granted him many more years to serve the Lord he loved.



**Rev. & Mrs. C. F. Day and sons Clifford and Irwin.**

During this time the church was heated by a large box stove set up near the back of the church with lots of wood piled in the wood box beside it. This was not the best heating system but folks did have a very good excuse for always sitting in the back seats; it was the warmest spot in the church when the thermometer plunged to fifty below zero. Later some of the brethren installed a stove under the floor as a sort of floor furnace, with the grate just below the pulpit. It, at times, became a little temperamental and it was not unusual to arrive at the church to find it filled with smoke, but the fire of God was burning in their souls and a little smoke did not stop the service or the volume of praise going up to their Saviour, even with raspy throats.

God blessed Bro. & Sis. Day's ministry and many were sorry to have them leave so soon.



Somewhere in the early twenties plans were made for affiliation with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. At the General Conference in 1929 Bro. Daniel Michaelis was the first lay member to represent this Church.

**Bro. Daniel Michaelis (upper right hand corner) attended this General Conference in 1928 or 1929**

Bro. & Sis. Clarence Cunningham followed Bro. Day and the following is Sister Cunningham's account of their ministry.

'Christian Greetings in the name of our Precious Lord & Master.

Clarence (my husband) and I, four daughters and dear old brother Church, who lived with us, pulled into Parry Sound Saturday, October 18th, 1924, In November we baptized around eighteen in water who had given their hearts to Jesus. The Sunday night services were well attended, every seat being filled. There was a real move of God on and this encouraged us very much as we were young in the faith and so inexperienced, as this was our first church since receiving the call of God, after being filled with the Holy Ghost in prayer meetings in our home in St. Catharines before the church came to pass there. God worked with us with signs following the preaching of His word, Hallelujah..

On May 17th, 1925 at six o'clock Sunday evening, as the folk were beginning to assemble for the night service, the Lord called my precious husband home to be with Him. My eldest daughter, Audrey, 13 years old, went over to the church and made the announcement that her father had just passed away. We had the funeral service in the church on Wednesday. Bro. R. E. Sternall preached the sermon and my husband was laid to rest in the Parry Sound cemetery. Bro. Charles McLean carved out a small stone to mark the grave. Rev. Clarence Cunningham's death was the first break in the ministerial ranks of the original chartered members of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. The board and myself fasted and prayed a week after the passing of my husband as to what should be the Lord's will for me. The board and the entire congregation were unanimous in asking me to stay on and Pastor the church. Parry Sound was one of the oldest assemblies in Canada.

I am now 87 years old, and I send my Christian greeting to the pastor and members. I spend much time in prayer each day and want you to know I pray for you all in Parry Sound and God hears and answers prayer. God bless you all richly, carry on, hold the banner of our Christ high. Amen.

Sis. Mabel Cunningham'

One day, back in the 1920's, a local garage operator, by the name of Harry Demick, along with a group of men, deciding to attend a church together, arrived at the Pentecostal Church on Sunday. During their discussion prior to going to church, they also planned that each would give a dollar to the offering. The minister was a lady and could have been Sister Cunningham, but according to the men she was a mighty good preacher. God works in mysterious ways and the twenty dollars they contributed to the church, which would equal at least three times that to-day, could have been very much needed and an answer to prayer.



Rev. & Sis. Clarence Cunningham and daughters, Mr. Church.



On that same night, the church was crowded and when Cecil McLean, who weighed around three hundred pounds, came into the church he could not find a suitable seat so he propped himself against the edge of the wood box. Midway through the message, when everyone was listening intently, the inevitable happened; that wood box suddenly shifted and into it he went. A very embarrassed Cecil had to have help to get out, much to the amusement of the newcomers.

Sister Cunningham's eldest daughter, Audrey, has been active in evangelistic work; Margaret is the wife of evangelist Ernie French; Jean is the wife of Rev. Don Emmons, who is our District Superintendent, and Enid is in secular work.



**Rev. & Mrs. James Swanson and family**



Our next pastors were Bro. & Sis. James Swanson who had two children, Gordon and Hazel. Bro. Swanson was a gifted Bible teacher and his sermons were very much enjoyed by young and old alike. He was much loved by the young people and the Young People's Meetings were well attended.

Sis. Ellen McEacheren (formerly Mrs. Alex Willett) came to a Sunday night service during Bro. Swanson's ministry and at the close of the meeting he asked her if she was saved. She answered that she was not but would like to go to the prayer room to look on but Pastor Swanson said he would rather she did not unless she wanted to give her heart to the Lord as this could hinder the moving of the Spirit. She would have made a pretense of that just to see what was going on but she went home and returned again the following evening to find Jesus as her Saviour in that prayer room.

Sis. Swanson was quite capable of taking the services but, owing to the birth of their third child, Winston, later called Jim, she was unable to take active part during much of their time in Parry Sound. The congregation was sorry to see them leave but God called them to a greater field of endeavour. Pastor Swanson opened the first P.A.O.C. Bible School in Toronto.

The following is a letter From Sis. Swanson--

'Greetings to the church in Parry Sound.

believe we came to be your pastors in 1926. We then had a son, Gordon, who was about six and a little girl, Hazel, 16 months old, also a baby on the way.

We moved into the parsonage by the tracks with the church close by. You gave us such a warm welcome and we walked into your hearts and you certainly walked into ours.

One of the things that I remember clearly is that when we first arrived, at about 2 o'clock every morning the Transcontinental train from Vancouver to Toronto came flying through. The lights glared in our bedroom, the whistle blew, and we actually were lifted up from our beds. However, we got accustomed to it and had many lovely times in the parsonage.

Jim, our younger son, was born there. He is now 44 years of age and has a very fine church in the city of Portland, Oregon. I have many tender memories of the kindness you all showed. Sister Wood would take Hazel, our little baby, 16 months old, and would keep her so often since I was not too well, that Hazel used to call her Mama Wood.



Gordon also is pastor of a church about 100 miles from me and we have some nice times of fellowship together. Hazel is Mrs. Jack McAlister, her husband is the Director of World Literature Crusade.

I am sure there are not many of you there that remember us. The main thing that lingers in my memory is the freedom and blessing of the Lord that was in the assembly. You were an easy people to preach to; you were so open to the Holy Spirit; praise his name.

Then many years later, when Brother and Sister Atkinson were your pastors, I was invited to spend a week-end with you in your then new church and new parsonage. Once again I ministered to you and enjoyed your fellowship and renewed acquaintances. I believe that you now have a larger church.

I praise the Lord for allowing us to come your way. May His blessing continue to be upon your assembly, and give you the privilege of winning many more souls before He comes. If I do not have the opportunity of meeting you again down here, we shall meet one another in the air. 'Even so come, Lord Jesus.'

Your Sister in Christ,

May Swanson'

Pastor and Sister Reynold Wilson and baby came to pastor in 1927. Their stay in our midst was rather short owing to Pastor Wilson's ill health, they left in 1928.



**Rev. & Mrs. Reynold Wilson.**

Pastor & Sister George Upton, with sons Roy and Gordon, arrived in 1928 to take over. The pastorate, which had been experiencing a time when their zeal for God was at a rather low ebb, progressed spiritually under his guidance and when they left in 1929 the Assembly was enjoying the fulness of God's blessings.

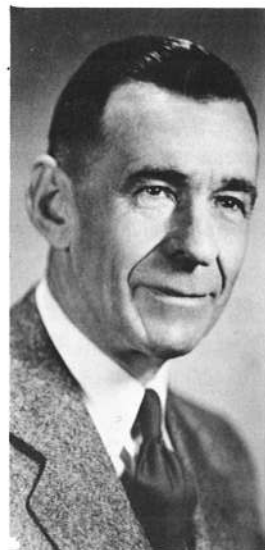
Their two small sons loved the annual Sunday School picnic and on one occasion when the weatherman did not co-operate very well, and the rain drizzled all morning, the boys persisted in singing 'It Ain't Gonna Rain No More, No More' all the way to the picnic, much to the dismay of their mother who tried to shush them up from singing that song repeatedly. We like to think they were exercising faith that the rain would stop. It did and they enjoyed a lovely picnic.

Following is Pastor Upton's comments on his stay in Parry Sound ----

#### Memories of Parry Sound

by Rev. George R. Upton

My contribution to the church in Parry Sound was neither phenomenal nor extensive. I have never ceased to marvel at the warmth of the welcome extended to myself and my family when we arrived as total strangers, from Northern Saskatchewan, to begin our pastoral ministry, in the autumn of 1928. The church and furnished house awaited us, beside the Canadian National Railways tracks on the slope of the western hill leading down into the town.



Parry Sound is remembered by many in Pentecostal circles as the home church of Mrs. Marion Keller (Nee Weller), veteran missionary of honored memory for her many years of fruitful service in East Africa. We found that several families in the church formed part of the Mrs. Keller-Weller family connection.

**Rev. George Upton.**

The names of some members active in the Sunday School and church have gone from me, but during our period of ministry there we felt a very real sense of the Lord's help and presence, and were aware of His



Holy Spirit being at work, bringing help and inspiration to both the youth and adults. Pastoral visitation in the homes, both in the town and surrounding countryside, we enjoyed and found rewarding. Friendships were formed stretching across the years.

We join the many friends of the Parry Sound Pentecostal Tabernacle in congratulations and Good Wishes in having continued in increased and effective outreach across these many years. May you continue, together with your present pastor, to go forward with an even greater sense of God's leading and help - Until Jesus Comes.

Our Assembly then came under the able leadership of Pastor and Sister George Atkinson, with their son Orland and daughter Edna. Pastor Atkinson was very dedicated to the work of the Lord and spent many hours going from door to door inviting folk out to church and talking to them about salvation. God blessed their ministry even though doors were slammed in his face.

Bro. Atkinson was instrumental in opening up the work in Mactier, where a church was erected and at the present time is being pastored by Rev. Cruickshank. Also at Orrville, he started a work, where Bro. Jack Watkinson erected a church. He held meetings in Hurdville, Shawanaga and cottage prayer meetings at Nobel where many gave their hearts to the Lord. Some of the converts as a result of the cottage prayer meetings at Nobel were: Bro. & Sis. Ralph Crawford and family, Bro. & Sis. Elmer Sly and family, Sis. Herman Rosewell and family. Some of the members of these families have gone home to Glory and others are still active in the work of the Lord and faithfully attending the church.

Among the converts under Pastor Atkinson's ministry were several prominent women from the United Church. Sis. Stone, wife of Lawyer Stone, who became our very capable pianist; Sis. Hailstone; Sis. Boyd; Sister Wilson; and Sister G. Shropshire, wife of a bake shop proprietor. Sister Shropshire later took over as Sunday School Superintendent and faithfully served the Lord in that capacity for eleven years. On her retirement the church and Sunday school honored her long service with a gift and a very enjoyable social evening.



**Rev. & Mrs. George Atkinson.**

Brother Don Sly was Sister Shropshire's assistant; when she retired he was voted in as Sunday School Superintendent. Others who were active as Sunday School Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent down through the years were: Brother Joe Deveton, Sister Eunice Morris, Brother Aubrey Anderson, Brother Paul Willett.

Brother Bert Adams conducted a campaign during Brother Atkinson's ministry when approximately twenty-eight received the baptism, one of whom was Brother Jack Willett who is still active for the Lord. Brother Adams made the remark 'I felt the presence of God was so wonderful and Heaven so near I would like to take a piece of the carpet with me, how wonderful God is, He blesses the Stones and the Hailstones'.

God did not confine His blessings to special services, tarrying services on Sunday nights lasted until after midnight. Many received the baptism of the spirit and they just didn't want to go home. The night Brother Jim Hardie received his baptism he was so filled with the Spirit he walked to where he was staying on James Street before he remembered he had driven his car to church. He made the remark that he felt he was walking on air. Some of the teenage boys who lived nearby would peer in the prayer room window, and according to them, some were dancing around tearing out their hair, others hanging on the light fixtures and others pounding on the floor beside a seeker demanding that they do something. Of course, this was exaggeration but God's power works in wondrous ways and we are a peculiar people. One lad was standing on a box, the better to see in the window, when his perch broke suddenly and frightened him so much he didn't stop running until he got home. Some of the people living near the church, because of the loud ringing of the praises to God and the hearty singing of the christrans, complained about the noise to the police and two of the law officers came down the steps into the church prayer room, looked around, turned, and without a word walked out again.

Some of the families not mentioned elsewhere who attended the church up to this time were; Albert North, Mr. Ben Hanna, Mrs. Vine Davis and family, Mrs. Joe Reynolds and family, Mr. & Mrs. Ben Lloyd and family, Ruth Clarke, Mr. & Mrs. Fred McNamara and family, Billy Hunt, Mrs. Piatti & family, Mrs. Melcher and son Arthur, Martin Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Misenheimer and family, Mr. & Mrs. David Chisholm & family, Hilda and Manda Hudson, Tom Clark, Mr. Hiles, Mr. & Mrs. Colin Woods and daughter Celena, Mr. & Mrs. Herb Harris and family, Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Seeney and family, June Willard, Edith McKelvey, Leida Dockstader, Verna, Ivy, Effie, Nat, and Hubert Harris, Mrs. Miller and family, Mrs. Elizabeth Nielly and family, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Fawcett and family, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Rogers and family, Mrs. Hugh McCallam and family, Mrs.

Margaret Holmes and family, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bennett and daughter Irene, Mrs. Richards and daughter Ruby, Mrs. Emily Neal and family, Mr. & Mrs. John Wood, Mrs. Stella Harris, Mr. & Mrs. Ben McDonald and family, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Brown and family, Mrs. Agnes Johnston and family, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Milligan and family, and others we cannot recall. Some of the above members were active in the church until they moved away, some are still attending, and others have passed on to be with the Lord.

When Brother Elmore Michaelis was 14 years old, his mother had prayed so often that God would baptize him with His Holy Spirit. He was a quiet teenager and much to her despair he seemed totally uninterested in seeking or receiving this promise of the Father. However, underneath that rather serious nature, there was a very real desire to have the baptism, but he wanted to receive it in a quiet dignified way. It seems God had to really shake him up to break through that reserve.



**Picnic at Beach Bays**

One evening, when the family were returning home from church they were talking about how wonderful the service had been, several of the young people had received their baptism, including Elmore's cousin Lorne Michaelis. Elmore's mother was once again encouraging him to seek for the infilling of the Holy Spirit but Elmore made no reply. He hopped out of the car to open the gate and when closing it, suddenly he felt the power of God hit him almost like a bolt of lightning. He was rather bewildered; he turned and, as he ran toward the house, the power of God struck him again and he fell prostrate on the ground. God loosened him up from head to toe including his tongue. His family came out to investigate the noise and found Elmore being thoroughly shaken by the power of God and shouting His praises until God spoke through him in another tongue. They immediately joined him in making a joyful noise unto the Lord and those Hallelujahs reached the ears of his uncle's family next door and one by one they came through the corn field to add their voices to the volume of praise. God opened the windows of Heaven and poured out His blessings until they could scarcely contain it. Farther up the road his Uncle Leonard and Aunt Esther could be heard shouting 'Praise the Lord' from their bedroom window.

What a wonderful time it must have been out under the harvest moon when Heaven came down and Glory filled their souls. Some people passing by on the road were convinced they were drunk or crazy. On the day of Pentecost, when they were all filled with the Spirit and spoke in other tongues, it was noised abroad and attracted a large crowd. They were quick to label them drunken but Peter stood up and told the crowd 'This is that spoken of by the prophet Joel, the promise received of the Father, which ye now see and hear'. When we are willing to receive it God gives full measure pressed down and running over. A few hours later when Elmore went out to do the chores he was still bubbling over with the joy of the Lord. Old Bossy must have got the surprise of her life as Elmore rocked back and forth on the milking stool keeping time with his arms and feet as he did the milking and singing lustily the praises of God from a heart filled to overflowing.

Mr. & Mrs. George Hunt, and some of their family, had been saved in special services held in the Baptist Church. One night, while on their way to that church, Sis. Hunt suggested they stop at the Pentecostal Church to hear Bro. Bert Adams. Needless to say, they came again to hear more and eventually received their baptism. Brother Hunt taught at Sunday School and helped in the jail services, providing the music with his accordion. Their daughters, Sis. Gladys Anderson, Sis. Dorothy Norrie and Sis. Beulah Welsh are faithful members of our church today.

Brother Atkinson travelled to Hurdville services via Waubanic, as the old car he drove could not make the hills on the McDougall road. One day he met Bro. Danny Campbell and Bro. Fred Keating, delivering wood in town with a team of horses and sleighs, and stopped to ask if they would move a piano. They agreed and so the first piano was moved to the church. This way he made contact with some of his first converts at McDougall School. Bro. Campbell remarked 'He is not too bad a fellow' and Sis. Keating started attending the services after being invited by Bro. & Sis. Will Hardie. She would walk three miles to the school house but she would wait until Bro. & Sis. Atkinson left so he would not offer her a ride home as she felt so much under conviction she was afraid to accept a ride as she fought a battle with herself about her soul's salvation. The last service in the fall Brother Atkinson received an offering of 64 cents and on his way home broke an axle and had to be towed back to town. However, he felt it was worth it all because in the service that evening one soul, Sis. Fred Keating, had raised her hand for salvation and had received Christ as her Saviour. Mr. & Mrs. Fred Keating, parents of Sis. Norma Keown,

are still serving the Lord today.

Bro. Atkinson shared the meetings with other denominations from town but before long the other ministers dropped out, leaving him to carry on alone. They eventually closed the school for any meetings due to some opposition and Sis. C. Phillips opened her home for services for the balance of the summer. Later the services were held in the Hurdville Orange Hall. The following is an article written for the Evangel.

### 'The Happiest People'

by Charles A. Harris

I was holding evangelistic meetings in the Canadian town of Parry Sound, Ontario. It was winter then, and there was much snow on the ground. The country around the town was heavily wooded, and wild animals such as wolves and bears lurked among the trees. On clear nights we could hear the wolves howl.

I noticed a group of people walking into the church on Sunday evening. They seemed to enter as a body, as if they were a delegation from some other point. I noticed also that their worship during the service seemed to be unusually spontaneous and joyful. They sang the hymns with vigor, and their faces shone with the gladness of the gospel.

Pastor Atkinson introduced me to several of these people after the service. Their fervency of spirit made a distinct impression upon me. They seemed to be different from other Christians. It was evident from their remarks that they considered it a great privilege to be present for the meeting.

After they had bundled up and departed from the church I asked the pastor who they were. He replied, 'They are the happiest people in the church. And they're the most faithful. They have a deep hunger for God, and prove it by the distance they travel to come to the meetings.

'Every week,' he continued, 'those people walk twelve miles to be in the Sunday night meeting, and walk twelve miles home again. It's a lonely trail, too. Not the easiest to travel. But they come every Sunday and they don't consider it a sacrifice either.'

I asked, 'How long will it take them to get home?'

He looked at his watch. 'It's ten o'clock now. They'll be home by about 2 a.m. It takes them about four hours to tramp through the snow.

I thought, 'No wonder they enter into the service so heartily. When they go to so much trouble to get to the house of God, they certainly can be expected to put the most into the meeting and get the most out of it.'

'Do they ever complain?' I asked. 'They must be dead tired when they get home.'

'No,' said the pastor, smiling. 'They always tell me what a good time they have while tramping along the trail. They talk about the Lord, and sing hymns, and thoroughly enjoy the trip to church and back.'

That night, as I retired to a warm room and climbed into a comfortable bed, I kept thinking about that group of happy Christians who at that very hour were somewhere out in the dark wintry night trudging through the snow toward their homes. I thought, 'What a different attitude they show from that of many church members who live only a few blocks from church! Most folk ride the bus, or come in the family car, and complain that they are too busy or too tired to come to every service. Maybe they're spoiled. How wonderful it would be to have a church full of people like that hardy group who are willing to sacrifice to be in the house of God.'

The happiest people, I concluded, are those who have learned the lessons of sacrifice and faithfulness.

This group came from around Hurdville and many of them are still serving God today. They were members of the following families, Keating, Phillips, Hardie, Parton, Fisher and Tait.

One Sunday School picnic in 1931 at Bower's Bay was turned into a baptismal service when four sisters were baptized in water. They were Sis. Violet Flumerfelt, Sis. Margaret Willett, Sis. Jane Owens, and Sis. Ellen McEacheren. Another picnic that was held at Bower's Bay, better known as Beach Bays, will always be remembered by Sis. Haskim. In order to reach the bay you had to walk part way and you had the choice of climbing a very steep railroad fill and crossing the track or going through what seemed to her childish eyes, a very long dark tunnel. A little stream ran through this and you waded barefoot carrying your shoes. Many of you may remember her brother, Cecil McLean who was of average height and weighed well over 300 pounds. He decided he could not climb that fill so he started through the tunnel. Halfway through, it suddenly got very low and narrow. You had to navigate the last half bent well over or bump your head. Well, Cecil's large bulk got him into trouble, some places it seemed he would never make it through, and she was directly behind him. He was blocking any light that might have penetrated from the entrance, and listening to his moans and groans and with her fears that he wouldn't make it, made the trip rather interesting to say the least. He did get through and, needless to say, he was not too happy with our choice of a picnic site but we enjoyed a lovely time of fellowship in God's great outdoors.

Bro. H. Harp moved to Parry Sound in 1932 and for nearly ten years took an active part in the work, teaching the Bible Class and working with the young people. Affectionately known as Grandpa Harp, his heart was filled with the love of God and he shared that love with everyone he met. One sister can recall eagerly looking forward to the Young People's meetings because he kept them involved in every part of the service and in learning the Word of God.

Sometimes in the prayer room, when he would get so filled with the spirit, Brother Harp would suddenly give a shout, jump up and run across the room and back to his seat. When God fills your heart to over-



Mr. & Mrs. H. Harp.

flowing you just have to shout about it. He went to his reward in 1943 at the age of 81. Grandpa Harp was the step-father of Sister Christine Hayes, who faithfully served the Lord until her death a few years ago.

The little church was much too small and some renovating was done to enlarge and move the platform back to make room for the first orchestra, started by Bro. Atkinson. We must not forget the chairs with the spring seats. They were purchased from a theatre, possibly the Odeon which had closed down, and they replaced ordinary wooden chairs. When you stood up the spring seats came up behind you. They might serve a good purpose today to give us that extra push when we are asked for a testimony. When a spring was broken the seat stayed down and it wasn't unusual to get a crack on the shin if you were not watching, not to mention the odd pinch from some of them that were loose and would swing too close to its neighbour. We were able to seat more people and reach more with the Gospel so they served a good purpose, far different than what they were designed for.

The prayer room would usually have a group of people in every corner, praying for someone seeking salvation or the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Others would be standing with faces uplifted toward Heaven, praising God and some, like David of old, would be dancing in the Spirit. The room was heated by a large box stove that glowed red on cold nights but somehow no one ever came close enough to touch it. God's presence would fill the room and one couldn't help being touched by Him.

Brother and Sister Walter Grieves along with their daughter, Ila, and sons, Lawrence and Stanley, moved to Parry Sound from Coe Hill, Ontario around 1933 and became faithful members of our assembly. Their daughter Vera (Mrs. Wesley Boyd), who had been attending for some time previously, taught a Sunday School Class for many years. Mrs. Grieves, whom the Lord blessed with the gift of prophecy, taught Sunday School also. Bro. and Sis. Grieves served the Lord faithfully until He called them home. Another family who moved to Parry Sound and attended our church were Mrs. Esther Downing, sister of Mrs. Walter Grieves, her son Sidney and daughters Blanche and Doris.

Brother & Sis. Atkinson left in 1935 and Bro. & Sis. B. Bullock, with their son Bernard and daughters Evelyn and Faith, came to carry on God's work. The new parsonage was built during his pastorate. He was a wonderful Bible teacher and Tuesday night Bible studies were outstanding. The Young People's work really thrived under his ministry. One day Pastor Bullock felt God speaking to him to pay a visit to Bro. & Sis. McLean's home to talk and pray with their son Cecil about his soul's salvation. On his former pastoral visits, immediately he arrived Cecil would leave the room and go upstairs until he left. This time Bro. Bullock asked him to stay as he had come to see him. Cecil listened quietly and the next morning he came downstairs and threw his cigarettes and tobacco into the stove and announced he was through with all that and wanted to serve God. A few days later he suffered a stroke and passed away in a week's time. God so wonderfully answered that mother and father's prayers for their son.

Sis. Flumerfelt and other members of her family prayed for Bro. Flumerfelt's salvation for ten years. In the winter of 1939 Bro. & Sis. Lemon were holding special meetings. One night Bro. Flumerfelt found his way to the prayer room and knelt before God. After praying for awhile he whispered to



**Rev. & Mrs. Bernard Bullock**

his wife 'I feel that if Sis. Katie Michaelis would come and pray with me I would get through to God'. At the same time Sis. Michaelis felt led to go and pray with him and God really met his need. He confessed all of his sins to Jesus and to all listening as well. One week later Bro. Flumerfelt went to the parsonage to clean the stove pipes. On completion of this job Bro. Flumerfelt, Bro. Lemon and our pastor, Bro. Bullock, decided to go over to the church and clean the stove pipes there. When they finished this rather dirty task Bro. Lemon suggested they pray for awhile and as they were praying, still in their dirty clothes and all of them grimy and covered with soot, Bro. Flumerfelt received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Jack McDonald was converted in Hurdville during Bro. Atkinson's ministry. As a young married man with small children he witnessed effectively to a number of young men in the community, among them some of the Quackenbush family. This led to several others being converted during the beginning of Pastor Bullock's ministry. One of the young men was Donald Sly, who was working in that area at that time.

Sister Bullock was kept very busy with her three small children while they ministered in Parry Sound, but she helped wherever she could, teaching the young men's class, regularly attending the prayer meetings and prayer room and visitation work with her husband.

Bro. & Sis. Robert Norcross Sr. moved to Parry Sound around 1934 from Toronto, Ontario and he worked here as meat manager at the Dominion Store. After he was converted he had a battle with the smoking habit and was unable to break this yoke in his own strength but with God all things are possible. One night the Lord gloriously baptized him with the Holy Spirit and instantly delivered him from the smoking habit, 'Praise God'. The Lord called them into full time ministry and they have pastored in several places including Elora, Galt, Sarnia and also in the U.S.A. He is visitation pastor at the Brampton Pentecostal Church at the present time. All of their five children are in full time ministry.



**Rev. & Mrs. Robert Norcross**

The following greetings are from Rev. Robert Norcross Sr.

'It affords us great pleasure to add to the publishing of the history of the Parry Sound Assembly.

In 1934, while employed as a meat manager with a chain store in the city of Toronto, I was offered the position of manager of the branch store in Parry Sound. Once there we were soon aware of the blessing of the Lord and having moved in the will of God, we attended the wonderful meetings in the Parry Sound Assembly.



**An outing at Beach Bays, year 1941**

Bro. George Atkinson Sr., our pastor, gave us great spiritual leadership. In the course of time Bro. Bullock succeeded him as Pastor and God gave him a real Holy Ghost revival.

This was the first time I had seen an outpouring of the Spirit and a religious revival. It was then I received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and spoke with other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance and received a definite call to the ministry.

The Parry Sound Assembly will always be a very dear place to our hearts as we think of God's goodness in saving our five children and calling them all into the ministry.

Sincerely,

Rev. & Mrs. Robert Norcross Sr.

Pastor Bullock has gone to be with the Lord and the following is from Sister Bullock about their years of service in the work of the Lord in Parry Sound.

'We arrived in Parry Sound in the early spring of 1935 and found a group of old time Christians who loved the presence and blessing of the Lord. We were privileged to be there when those the Lord had used to start the work were still active. I still recall the many times of sweet fellowship we had in their homes as well as in the church.

After living in a rented house near the church for some time, the brethren built a nice commodious parsonage. We enjoyed it for the last half of the 4½ years we pastored in Parry Sound.

In those days we had a meeting five nights a week. Saturday and Monday nights were given over completely to prayer. Many times the Lord would lay such intercessory prayer on His people they would pray and weep before the Lord for hours. That, I believe with all my heart, was the reason for the steady growth of the church.

May the Lord continue to bless the assembly in blessing and growth.

Yours in His love,

Sis. Bullock'



Rev. & Mrs. Bernard Bullock

Brother and Sister Cecil Mintz and family moved to Parry Sound from Timmins around 1939 and Brother and Sister Lorne Mintz and some members of their family followed a year later. Several of the Mintz family have been active in the church down through the years. Bro. Lorne Mintz, father of Cecil, prior to his death served on the church board and taught Sunday School for a number of years. Sis. Esther Mintz, wife of Cecil, was active in the W. M. C. and was teaching the young girls class until her illness and home going to Glory in 1971.



In 1939 Brother and Sister Day and sons with the addition of a daughter, Lois, to their family returned to minister for the next five years. God blessed in a very real way. Many Sunday morning services the Holy Spirit would move on the congregation in such a way that the message was never given. Sometimes, under God's anointing, Sister Day would give the message without notes or preparation, with the glory of God shining on her face. The prayer room had to be enlarged again to contain the folks seeking God.

Their son, Irwin Day, was working at Defence Industries Limited, and one day while Pastor Day was at the church praying, Sister Day was playing the piano at home, Irwin's wife, Ann, was ironing, and Lois was doing her homework; suddenly they heard Brother Day's voice calling 'Irwin, Irwin'. They knew something was wrong and all knelt down calling on God earnestly for Irwin. At that same moment they heard a tremendous noise and loud rumblings and shortly their other son, Clifford, came in to tell them of the explosion where Irwin was working. Just as it occurred Irwin dove headlong into a ditch and a large timber came down on the spot where he had been standing. Thank God he cares for us. A revival started among the young people ten to thirteen years of age at that time and lasted several weeks. About fifteen were saved and several received the baptism.

When someone made the remark at a teacher's meeting that they would like to see the children get a different kind of Sunday School paper as their child didn't like the one they had, Pastor Day remarked 'If they gave some children what they wanted they would end up with funny papers. One day Sister Day walked into church to find her daughter Lois had been asked to play the piano by the Sunday School Superintendent, Sister Shropshire, in the absence of the regular pianist. She didn't feel Lois was qualified to play but Sister Shropshire insisted she let her alone and give her a chance. She has been playing for the Lord ever since.



**Rev. & Mrs. C. F. Day**



**S. S. staff & Pastor & Sis. Day**



**Parry Sound Sunday School, year 1942**

An interesting wedding was performed by Bro. Day in the parsonage one afternoon. Sis. Eunice Morris was working for the family at the time and she opened the door for the wedding party, to be greeted by a huge bubble the bride had just blown with her bubble gum. The rest of them were making good use of their share of the gum as well. Bro. Day was somewhat perturbed by the gum session, especially as the groom kept time with his chewing by nervously swinging a fedora back and forth throughout the ceremony. It was rather amusing and suppressed giggles could be heard from Eunice and Lois in the kitchen. These people were not saved and obviously not too aware of the importance and sanctity of the marriage vows.

In some Sunday morning services the presence of the Holy Spirit was so real that many of the congregation, under conviction for things that were not God's will for their lives, felt led to confess them publicly and rededicate their all to Jesus. Tears flowed freely all over the building as they yielded to the Holy Spirit and allowed Him to break down the barriers and unite them in the love of God. 'Surely the Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit' Psalms 34:18. Pastor Day had a compassion for the sick and afflicted and he spent many hours praying and calling on God on their behalf, until they felt the touch of the Great Physician.

Pastor and Mrs. Day are now in their declining years and his comments, in a letter dated May 13, 1972, are short and to the point, 'A very enjoyable ministry'. They left this assembly in 1944. At a farewell evening for Lois, now Mrs. Ernie Jansen, she was presented with a suitcase which she was still carrying when she visited at Beach Bays Cottages this summer. June 1972



**Farewell evening at Beach Bays for Sis. Lois Day.**



**Rev. & Mrs. George Atkinson**

Following Pastor and Sister Day, Reverend and Mrs. George Atkinson returned to take over as ministers of our church.



**Horseshoe Sunday School**



**Victory Village Sunday School**



**Parry Harbour Sunday School**



**Sunday School at Badger's School**



**Sunday School at Badger's School**



**Sunday School at the home of Sis. S. Michaelis.**

Several branch Sunday Schools were started; at Horseshoe with Bro. & Sis. Cecil Mintz in charge; at Victory Village with Sis. Grace Perry, Sis. Vera Boyd and Sis. Eunice Morris; at Parry Harbour several people helped at different times -- Sis. Gladys Michaels, Sis. Jean Watkinson, Bro. & Sis. Ralph Harrison, Sis. Margaret Michaelis, Sis. Elnora Felsman, Sis. Gladys Anderson, Bro. & Sis. Albert Parton, Sis. Esther Kuzmeluk, Bros. Earl Norrie, George Hunt, Bro. & Sis. Eric Holden. Sis. Sam Michaelis held Sunday School in her home and later moved it to Badger's School. This was later taken over by her daughter and her husband, Sis. Valone and Bro. Donald Sly and her son Bro. Elmore Michaelis, and when Elmore married, his wife Margaret, assisted there also.



**Ready to leave for a service at the home of Mr. & Mrs. William Daley at Port Anson, Ont.**

Pastor Atkinson held services at Port Anson, French River, Sundridge and Burks Falls, often taking a group of young people with him. Sis. Della MacLean and Sis. Hanna Sweet, who were looking after the work in Orange Valley joined him on different occasions at Port Anson and Sundridge.

At this time Bro. & Sis. Blackmore, who had moved from our assembly to Burks Falls, were very concerned and anxious to have someone come up and continue to hold meetings there.



**On our way to Port Anson for a service.**



**Service at the home of Bro. & Sis. Tom Schell, French River, Ont.**



**Rev. & Mrs. Howard Burke & family.**

Bro. & Sis. Howard Burke, with a group of young people drove over to hold a service and Sis. Eunice Morris, who was looking after the work in Magnetawan at that time, came over to the meeting. Bro. & Sis. Burke decided to move to Burks Falls and take over the work for a while. Sis. Burke is the daughter of Bro. & Sis. Dafoe who were active members of our congregation.

Around 1944 Bro. & Sis. Otto Kasurinen and family moved from Toronto to Parry Sound. Burdened for the salvation of the Ojibway Indian people, he began holding meetings regularly on Parry Island. A number came to know Jesus as their Saviour and some are still faithfully serving the Lord to-day.

During Pastor Atkinson's ministry this time, he installed the following board members for life: Brothers Daniel Michaelis, Samuel Michaelis, Jack Willett and Leonard Smith. When Bro. Smith passed away, Bro. James Hardie took his place on the board. This method was carried on until such time as the church accepted the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada Constitution and they were again voted into this office.

In 1944, during Pastor Atkinson's ministry, Joe and Jane Deveton had been attending the services for about six weeks but, as yet, hadn't fully grasped what it meant to be saved. The Holy Spirit was talking to their hearts and Sis. Deveton invited the pastor to their home. This personal witness and the way of salvation explained by God's Word was all that was needed to persuade them to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. They have been dedicated workers for the Lord since that time, teaching Sunday School and whenever called upon they have taken the services in other churches as well as in our own assembly. God is looking for personal witnesses as well as preachers of the gospel.

In 1945 Pastor Atkinson was instrumental in buying Wesley Perry's store on James Street for a new church. Men and women in the church willingly gave of their time and spent many hours renovating and redecorating the building. On May 26th, 1946 they left the little church beside the track, where God had blessed and added to their number, and moved to the larger tabernacle downtown and dedicated the new building to God, to be used for His Glory.



**Bro. & Sis. Otto Kasurinen**



**Interior of the Tabernacle on James St.,  
Pastor Atkinson at the pulpit.**

One Sunday evening, Charles Watkinson, responded to the urging of the Holy Spirit and went to the prayer room. He knelt way behind the furnace and poured out his heart to God, confessing his sin and accepting the Lord as his Saviour. He still wasn't satisfied, so he prayed on seeking the baptism. Bro. Vince Keown knelt by his side and there they prayed until 2 a.m. when God gloriously filled him with the Holy Spirit. Praise God, He satisfies.

In February, 1943, the Evangelistic Sunshine Circle started a broadcast every week over the local radio station, C.H.P.S., under the guidance and sponsorship of Bro. and Sis. David Michaels. Children sang God's praises, and special solos, duets and instrumental numbers were rendered with a short message from God's Word. Bro. Atkinson spoke many times on this program from September, 1944 until the station closed on July 1, 1945. On one occasion Evangelist Berry spoke on this broadcast while he was here conducting child evangelistic meetings at the church, which were blessed by many children accepting the Lord. The Sunshine Circle was the last program carried by the station and Mr. Gordon Smith, owner and operator, was presented with a plaque inscribed with the words 'Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace Whose Mind is Stayed on Thee'. Little Sylvia Smith played Heavenly Sunshine on her hawaiian guitar. A special duet by Bro. & Sis. Manley Weller, a solo by Sis. Eunice Morris, a cornet duet by Robert Ferris and Stewart Irvine, were all on that program. Bro. Atkinson and Bro. Eric Holden spoke briefly and the program closed with the hymn 'Good-Bye, God is Watching O'er Us' and the theme song 'When we Meet in the Clouds of the Sky'.

Brother and Sister John Mowers and their daughter, Fern, were faithfully attending the services in those days until they moved to Paris, Ontario. Anyone who ever heard Mrs. Mowers' testimony will never forget how blessed she would get and the rather unique way she had of telling what God had done for her. The joy of the Lord was down in her heart.

God continued to bless Bro. & Sis. Atkinson's ministry in Parry Sound until November 9, 1949, when, after two weeks of not feeling quite up to par, his work on this earth was ended as he quietly slept away without any apparent suffering, at the age of 58.

Bro. J. H. Blair, then district superintendent, was in charge of the funeral service. Bro. E. Hornby, pastor in St. Catharines, led in singing two favorite hymns, 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus' and 'It Is Well With My Soul'. Bro. V. Brown, pastor at Niagara Falls, led in prayer. Bro. C. Struck, who had been in the midst of conducting an evangelistic campaign at the church, sang and Bro. R. Norcross gave his personal testimony of the blessing Bro. Atkinson had been to him as his pastor, quoting God's statement regarding Job 'One that feareth God and escheweth evil'. Bro. G. F. Atter spoke briefly stating that the purpose of Bro. Atkinson's life had been according to the statement of the Apostle Paul 'that we ought to have a conscience void of offence toward God and man'. Bro. Atter felt he had left an indelible imprint on his life and he would be missed by so many. He urged the congregation to realize afresh how short and uncertain this life is. Bro. Blair brought the message on the text 'Well done thou good and faithful servant'. He emphasized the fact that the church had lost a good pastor, the home a good husband and father and the entire community a good man, and his influence would long be felt. He was laid to rest in the cemetery in Parry Sound and perhaps the greatest tribute to his memory are the words of a merchant in the town as he recalled the many times Bro. Atkinson had purchased clothing, using his own funds, and had them quietly delivered to the needy - 'I had great respect for him as a man and as a minister'.



**Mr. & Mrs. David Michaels & sons  
Murray & Rodney**

During this time Bro. Morris was miraculously healed of what the doctor had diagnosed as an ulcer with what looked like cancer surrounding it. Sis. Morris and her daughter Eunice were holding on to God in prayer for his healing as he sat with his head in his hands, thinking that unless God undertook his life was done. But God did intervene and one night in the prayer room, as Mr. Morris was kneeling in prayer, Mrs. Atkinson went over to him and, just as she put her hand on his shoulder, the power of God struck her so forcefully it almost knocked her down and caused her to shout the praises of God, the spirit of God was so strong on Mr. Morris. A few days later, while he was working, suddenly he was taken with cramps in the stomach and God instantly healed him causing this condition to leave his stomach and pass through the normal channels from his body in a way even the doctors said was not normal. The specialist declared in the first x-rays the condition was there but in a second set of x-rays, taken after God healed him, it was not there. God's wonder working power performs miracles that are done super-naturally and not as the natural man thinks.

Bro. Bob Clark came to assist Sis. Atkinson for a couple of months and with the help of special speakers she carried on the work until March, 1950. Sis. Atkinson remained in Parry Sound and some time later married Bro. J. Watkinson and has been a faithful servant of the Lord over the years.

The years have taken their toll and Sis. Watkinson was unable to write her personal contribution. She sends greetings in the Name of Jesus, with a heart felt desire for God's continued blessing on our Assembly. Her devotion to the work of the Lord, has been very evident throughout the years, on visitation with Bro. Atkinson, conducting the song services on Sunday, teaching Sunday School. She spent many hours on her knees interceding for souls and could always be found in the prayer room with anyone seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit or in need of encouragement.



**Rev. Gordon McElhoes**



**Sis. Hazel McElhoes**

Bro. & Sis. Gordon McElhoes, with their daughter Betty Ann and mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Goffin, came to pastor the work in March, 1950. They brought with them a real zeal for God and soon endeared themselves to the congregation. During their ministry souls were saved and baptized and sick bodies healed. It was during this time that members of the Ruttan and McConnell families came into the church.

Bro. & Sis. Frank Temple moved to Parry Sound from Dunnville Ont. around 1953, Bro. Temple was active in the church until a hunting accident took his life in 1956.

Gordon Crawford surrendered his life to the Lord at an early age, he loved his Saviour and would spend much time weeping and praying in the prayer room and would rise from his knees with the glow of heaven on his face. He attended Eastern Pentecostal Bible School and graduated in 1955 and pastored the work at Oil Springs. He is now in secular work.

There were times of sorrow over the years when loved ones left us for a better home on high. One particular tragedy in 1953 touched the lives of so many in our assembly. During a Sunday evening service in January a quartet was singing the beautiful old hymn 'Near to the Heart of God'. One of the singers was Rodney Michaels, twin brother of Murray. His mother, Gladys Michaels, was playing the accompaniment when suddenly her hands seemed arrested from the key-board and she was unable to continue playing. The quartet finished the number without the music. A few days later Rodney was killed while operating a power shovel. We also recall the sudden tragic drownings of Jimmie Smith and Bro. Don Wheatly, also of Bro. Nick Simola's illness and passing. They were always faithful in attending church no matter what the weather was like. Only God knows how near we are to Heaven.

Sis. Norma Keown was saved and came into the church when Pastor Atkinson first ministered here. Bro. Vince Keown was saved when Pastor Day ministered here the second time. Both have been active in the church down through the years. They started the work in McKellar and pastored the work at Orrville, Atikokan and Orange Valley, Ontario. They also held several camp meetings in different places with Evangelist Milton Winger.



**Camp meeting at Orrville.  
Evangelist M. Winger at back left.  
Bro. & Sis. Vince Keowan at front right.  
Rev. Bruce Schwindt & son back right.**

In 1955 Bro. Donald Sly had a remarkable healing of a fused ankle which had been that way since a motor accident two years previous. A husband and wife team of evangelists, by the name of Wright, from Houston, Texas, were holding services. During an invitation for anyone who wished to be prayed for to come forward, Bro. Sly didn't go right away and Sis. Wright went on to describe this condition and stated that if this person would come forward they would be healed. He responded to the call and God instantly healed his ankle, Praise the Lord. Sis. Evelyn Michaelis was instantly healed of sinus trouble she had suffered with for twenty years when Rev. Desmond Evans was holding special meetings. She was prayed for and has not had a trace of it since.

It was during Bro. & Sis. McElhoes ministry that the church held a farewell evening at the home of Bro. & Sis. Flumerfelt for Sis. Grace Perry and she was presented with a beautiful trilight floor lamp. She had been active in the church for thirteen years as pianist and teacher of the young men's class.

As Pastor McElhoes moved amidst the people and the other ministers in our town he felt impressed to organize a Ministerial Association. After meeting with the ministers of the United, Baptist, Anglican, Salvation Army, Apostolic, Nobel United, and Presbyterian churches, they together decided and later announced in the local paper, a series of united meetings to be held at Easter and Christmas in a different church each night. These

were very well attended by members of all churches till sometimes seating capacity was almost exhausted. On one occasion the Parry Sound High School auditorium was acquired and Rev. George Griffin of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada was invited as special speaker. Being an excellent Bible teacher, anointed by the Holy Spirit, he expounded the word of God until it seemed the congregation was spellbound and all thoroughly enjoyed the meetings. The Ministerial Association, though some members have come and some gone, are carrying on with these services up to the present time.

Sister Doreen Laing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Willett, started attending the church with her parents when she was just a little girl. She gave her heart to the Lord at an early age and was later filled with the Holy Spirit. She faithfully attended the services and was always willing to do anything she was asked to do in the Lord's work; speaking at young people's meetings, special singing, teaching in Sunday School and playing the piano. When she went to Eastern Pentecostal Bible School in 1954 she was missed by all. God had a plan for her life and while in Bible School she met and married Bro. Jim Laing. Since his graduation they have pastored the churches in Courtright, Kincardin and are presently pastoring at Dresden, Ontario. Following are words of greeting from Sister Doreen --



'I am thankful for being raised in a Pentecostal Church, especially the Parry Sound Church.

**Sis. Doreen Laing**

I was saved very young under the ministry of Bro. Day and am very thankful today for the many wonderful experiences I have had since then, serving God. The times in the prayer room have meant much to me and have sustained me many times. I feel truly that God has been extra special to me in that I grew into the Christian way with many real good God fearing friends and two wonderful pastors, Bro. Atkinson and Bro. McElhoes.

I knew God was calling me into His work but I just didn't know what He wanted me to do and I am so thankful for the encouragement of Bro. McElhoes to go to Eastern Pentecostal Bible College. That one year in Bible College not only showed me how great is the God we serve but how He definitely leads us when committed completely to Him. It was in our first year I met Jim. We were married between second and third year and upon graduation went into full time ministry. God has truly been with us all the way.

The scripture that has meant a lot to me is Psalm 37:5, 'Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in Him and He shall bring it to pass'. In His Service Doreen Laing

Pastor McElhoes was wonderfully used of God during the tragic trial of Marvin McKee for murder. He was able to lead him to the Saviour and he went to his death knowing he was ready to meet his God. The following article is taken from the 'Toronto Star':

'Marvin McKee, 20, was convicted of brutal murder and sentenced to hang February 9, 1960. McKee, after an



hour and a half of hymn singing that could be heard outside his jail cell window, walked 13 steps to an 800 pound floor trap in the corridor of the Parry Sound and Muskoka jail. The trap was sprung at 12:08. He was pronounced dead 12 minutes later.

Reverend Gordon McElhoes, a Pentecostal minister who had been visiting the youth frequently since last fall, said McKee went 'quietly but steadily' and rejected sedatives offered by jail attendants. 'I don't need them, I am ready to go' he stated. Mr. McElhoes said McKee volunteered to donate his eyes after the clergyman told him others with limited life had done so. 'He was really thrilled at the prospect of giving his sight to somebody after he came to believe that it doesn't matter too much what happens to your body when you leave it'. During the 11th hour hymn singing session, Mr. McElhoes said McKee smiled constantly and was overjoyed he had found Christ. He took it like a man and I said I was right proud of him.

McKee also told the minister he wanted to be buried in the prison yard as a reminder and deterrent to other boys who choose to live carelessly. Some of the hymns they sang were 'I Have a Friend in Jesus', 'Abide with Me', 'Thank You Lord for Saving My Soul'.

The Parry Sound lawyer who defended McKee said 'he admitted the killings but could not comprehend that they constituted murder and it was not until after Christmas that he began to show a feeling of resignation, for which I credit this switch to the Pentecostal minister who had done a great job preparing the boy for his end'.

The Sheriff, who was in charge of the hanging, said 'several developments since his arrest pointed up the youth's attitude, but this changed only after the Pentecostal minister started seeing him. It was apparent when we went for him this morning. McKee looked at John Ellis (the traditional name for Canada's hangman) and asked 'Are you the man?' Ellis said he was the man. McKee told him 'I want you to know I have nothing against you; no hard feelings against anyone, I am guilty of the charge and I am ready to go'.

Sister McElhoes helped to organize the Pioneer Missionary Action Girls. Sis. Valone Sly, Elsen Schurr, Margaret Michaelis, Florence Mortson and others devoted a great deal of time and effort to this project, meeting with the girls regularly to make articles to be given to the hospitals or sent to home or foreign missions, while endeavouring to help to guide and direct them to Jesus.

During Pastor Bullock's ministry there had been some parcels made up and sent to needy families and missionaries but the work wasn't continued. The Women's Missionary Council was organized during Pastor McElhoes ministry and they have faithfully carried on this very worthwhile work since that time, helping to support and sending many items to make life just a little easier for our missionaries. They have also formed a prayer chain and the ladies are always ready to take any needs that may arise to the Lord, in faith believing His word that His ears are open unto their prayers.



**Pioneer Missionary Action Girls and leaders**

Some renovating was done on the garage at the side of the church to make more room for the growing attendance at Sunday School.

Pastor McElhoes, with Sis. McElhoes officiating at the organ, started the first church choir with both young and older folks blending their voices for the glory of God.

Our church has always been very liberal in supporting missionary work. Some years ago the Sunday morning offering on the first Sunday of each month, from the church and Sunday School, was designated for missions and during Bro. McElhoes ministry the Sunday evening offering was included as well. At one time the Sunday School supported two native workers in Kenya, Africa. These offerings have increased over the years until the Parry Sound Assembly, for the size of the community, now stands near the top in giving to the Lord.

Pastor and Sis. McElhoes so very kindly sent the following greetings, covering many of the highlights of their ministry here: -

'First asked to go to Parry Sound to preach, third Sunday of January, 1950, and again in mid-February. Following which we were advised that the Church had extended us a unanimous call to be their Pastors. This we did, and ministered there another Sunday before taking up residence the latter part of March, until the beginning of July, 1961.

What do we remember? Well, among our fond memories we see the long, unpretentious place of worship, on James Street--the staunch older folk who had been in the Assembly since the holy Spirit had been out-poured in 1909 when Bro. Dan Michaelis received the Baptism, and others soon after. Also the number of fine families who brought all their children to Church and Sunday School, and into the prayer-room, even if they did fall asleep on the benches--bless them! The large basement prayer-room which was usually filled every Sunday night and very many times the sound of God's worship and praise was heard until the wee hours of the morning.

Yes, and we remember the high missionary zeal and large missionary offerings that never failed to fill our hearts with gratitude and praise to God! Also, the fun and fellowship we had on Young People's outings. Remember the ones at Beach Bays, and at Felsman's, and at the Morris' home, and the Mintz' home? and at the Temple's, and out at Rose Point, and others also.

We remember too, that when tragedy and sorrow struck our number--as it did on a number of occasions--how the whole Church rallied around, and ministered to one another. Also the precious times of seeking the Lord that



**Pioneer Missionary Action Girls and leaders.**



**Women's Missionary Council**

**Left to right: Edna Smith, Evelyn Harrison, Vera Boyd, Isabel Haggart, Alice Mortson, Hanna Willett, Rose Mintz, Hazel McElhoes.**

were always accentuated at such times.

Then of course, we'll never forget the day the purchase was made of the property--then used as a playground park--on which now stands the lovely Church building, praise the Lord!

Ah yes, we'll always remember the year of the big, big snow! when there was so much snow that many of the streets had to be made 'one way' routes; and the snow was piled so high by the constant snow-ploughing that cars passing down Church Street in front of the parsonage could only be seen when they passed an open driveway or path cut through the 'mountainous' piles of snow. And the subsequent 'bee' to shovel off the Church roof!

Speaking of snow--could we ever forget that November of 1950 when Parry Sound Church hosted the Sectional Sunday School Convention, which encompassed all the Churches from Barrie on the South to North Bay and Sudbury on the North. It was a two and a half day Convention, with Mrs. C. B. Smith, Rev. J. Montgomery, Rev. Gordon Atter, and Rev. W. H. Moody as speakers. The meals were all planned, and much preparation made for serving the expected over 100 to 150 participants; the billets all arranged, and then, the very first day of the Convention the biggest snowfall of the season descended upon the whole area, blocking many roads, and rendering the highway almost impassable in many places. The resulting comparatively small attendance and the 'what-shall-we-do-with-it?' quantities of food, and etc. were something to be long remembered, for sure!

Among the many interesting happenings we remember, (we could not mention them all) would be the arrival of 'the flying missionary of the North', Rev. John Spillenaar, in Parry Sound harbor in the 'Wings of the Gospel' Piper Cub, in the month of July, 1952, and officially welcomed by the Mayor of Parry Sound, and a group of us from the church.

Then, the remembrance of the subsequent opening of a Mission in Churchill, Man. with Parry Sound Church buying the property and sending monthly support for the Workers, Pastor and Mrs. George Whittall, for a number of years--in fact, this support was still in effect at the time of our leaving Parry Sound. (Stone Church in Toronto bought the building which was moved to the lot purchased by Parry Sound Church, and renovated for use as a Church, with living quarters attached).

Remember 'Hurricane Hazel'? Yes, we had Mr. Shem Irangi of Kenya, East Africa with us for a meeting, and next day took him to Barrie amidst torrential rains and fallen tree branches and debris.

Memories come surging through our minds as we think of those years: The Jail services every second Sunday afternoon, the Sunday afternoon services in Hurdville, the concurrent Sunday afternoon Sunday Schools held in several places, the summer-time street meetings we had at Beatty's corner, and later at the United Church corner, the Sunday night sing-song and testimony meetings held on the pier, the Radio ministry in co-operation with Orillia and Huntsville over CFOR and later from the Huntsville station, also the help of the young people in meetings at Magnetawan, Mactier, and other places around us; the raising and moving of the parsonage at Magnetawan!! (That was a job!)

Among our cherished memories are the times we went by air flight or by boat down to Wa-wa-taysee and Twelve Mile Bay to hold services for our Indian folk, or to take funerals, and their efforts to conduct Sunday School there. Also the times they formed a representative group and came to our Sunday School Christmas programs and took part. Also the meetings, funerals, and visits to the School with our Indian friends on Parry Island, and the meetings at Depot Harbour.

We will always remember the salvation and subsequent execution of convicted murderer Marvin McKee. The long months of constant visitation, and his hunger for the Word of God. Giving him a pretty thorough Bible Study course in the visits we had that covered the essentials of the Word of God, so great was his hunger for the knowledge of the Lord and His Word. The great sorrow we felt at the verdict and sentence! The never-to-be-forgotten experience of walking those last steps with him, holding my hand, and his last testimony as he stood on the trap door.

It is impossible to recall all the many wonderful healings and workings of the Lord among us during those years, however, the healing of Brother and Sister Roy and Verna Crisp's 'blue baby' stands out as we write. It was communion Sunday, and we asked the distraught parents to bring the baby to the front, where the members of the Board joined me as we anointed the little one, and everyone--yes, I remember the great compassion that gripped all of us, and everyone prayed for him. The Doctors had advised the parents that heart surgery would be imperative. But God! How we praise Him, and give Him all the glory for His touch on that baby, who never had that surgery and who has been in good health ever since, we understand. We also remember praying for an older man with a cancer on his face, Mr. Albert Corris, which we all could easily see, and had been diagnosed by the Doctor as such; but God touched him one Sunday as he was prayed for, and by the next Sunday it was all gone! Praise the Lord! Some of the folk will recall other precious workings of the Lord in healing and deliverance. How good God is!

The lovely new Lowery electric organ was a great asset to the church, and stands out in our memory. It was our request to have it dedicated to the glory and praise of God in loving memory of Mrs. Otto Keller, missionary from this church to Tanganyika and Kenya, Africa, 1913 to 1948. In 1924 Rev. and Mrs. Otto Keller were endorsed as missionaries affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. The Rev. J. H. Blair, representative of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Missions Department, and Superintendent of Western Ontario District, was present for this memorable occasion.

With joy we remember the many missionaries we were privileged to entertain and whose ministry was such a help in enlarging the missionary vision of the Church. Some of them are now with the Lord--what a privilege to have had them with us!

Other remembrances? Oh yes, there are many, of which these are a few:

The first time the Ministerial Association agreed to have a 'mission' in the High School auditorium--praise God! And the first time they agreed to have a Pentecostal speaker, and we were privileged to bring Rev. George Griffin for the occasion--and God's blessing upon the ministry. (Also remember the awkwardness of both Mrs. McElhoes and myself being ill and in Hospital during that time!)

Brother Cecil Mintz returning to the Church one Sunday, after taking the family partly home, to look for one missing child! Found safely and serenely sleeping on the pew. (ha!)

The 'Homemakers' Class' formed by Mrs. McElhoes which met a need in many lives, and was a great source of help to the Church as a whole.

Mrs. McElhoes being bitten by a poisonous snake while picking blueberries for the first time! Then the discovery that she was allergic to penicillin when her leg swelled almost twice its normal size and became stiff, and the goodness of the Lord in arresting the condition, causing her return to normal after a number of weeks.

The privilege of dedicating so many babies, and then seeing them grow up--and the eventual weddings of some of them.

The unusual double wedding on September 25th, 1954, when Murray and Enid Michaelis, and Lawrence and Gwen Rosewell were united in marriage at the same instant.

Various piano and voice recitals attended by several participating families of the Church, and all the accompanying excitement.

The great Sunday School picnics and ball games--and the black flies, ha!

The serious illness, which became so lengthy and almost fatal for Mrs. McElhoes, due to a rare blood condition and the extreme anemia it caused. Only the healing touch of the Lord brought her through, when Specialists said she had 'no more than three months to live'. We praise the Lord for His goodness!

The fine orchestra and choir--and the boys who learned to play the trumpet; and the Christmas cantatas and programs--who could forget the usual rehearsal-night panic! and the beginners' class who always 'stole the show'--the heart-stealers!



**Special meetings with the McColl Gerard Trio  
in the High School Auditorium.**

In closing, we pray God will continue to bless the Parry Sound Assembly and Pastors with His very best! and we say, with the Psalmist: 'Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things and blessed be His glorious name forever' Psa.72:18-19.

Lovingly,

Pastors Gordon & Hazel McElhoes'

Pastor and Sis. McElhoes moved to another pastorate in 1961.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CHURCH













Bro. & Sis. Guy Holmes came to pastor the work in our assembly next. They were very much in earnest for the work of the Lord, rising early in the morning to spend time in prayer for the salvation of souls and bringing the needs of the people to the throne of Grace. Sis. Holmes often preached inspiring messages from God's word and their anointed ministry was well received.

They started a series of Bible Studies and the Book of Revelations, so relevant to the times we are living in, was especially interesting. Pastor Holmes was blessed with the gift of prophecy and many times God used him to stir the hearts of the people with these prophetic messages. In one campaign, conducted by Sis. Ellis and Sis. Rodgers, many of the teen-age boys received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This revival continued for some time after the sisters left, and some more of our younger children were filled with the Holy Spirit and mightily blessed of the Lord.



**Rev. & Mrs. Guy Holmes**

One member of our assembly, namely Mr. Ronald Downey, while working at a local factory on March 21, 1965, was suddenly stricken with pains in his chest. After seeing a doctor and having x-rays taken, he was sent home for two weeks. Being no better at the end of that time, he was put in hospital for tests and subsequently sent to Toronto and examined by three doctors, but received no help.

During Christmas time, still suffering with pain, the Lord gave him a vision of himself being healed in the Parry Sound church, with the Pastor and members of the church praying for him.

On May 21, 1966, he again was sent to St. Michaels hospital in Toronto, where a lot of tests were done and a final diagnosis was given. He had silicosis (miner's consumption). The doctor told him they could operate but because of the condition of his lungs, he had a slim chance of pulling through it. The doctor did a biopsy, taking out a piece of his lungs, and a week later, by a report from the laboratory, the specialist told him he would never be able to work again, and would have to take heavy drugs to eliminate the pain.

On June 21, 1966, while Bro. Downey was sitting in church one Sunday, Pastor Holmes, led by the spirit of God, called him to come forward. He was so weak he had to be helped onto the platform. After exhorting

the congregation to join him in believing God, Pastor Holmes prayed and the Lord touched him. The next day he worked in his potato patch. From that day on gradually he became completely well and is still able to work every day, praising God for His healing power.

Pastor Holmes had been greatly used of God in building new churches and he soon began to make plans to build the present church on the property that had been purchased during Pastor McElhoes' ministry. The church was built at an approximate cost of seventy thousand dollars. This would have been at least one hundred thousand had it not been for the time and labour cheerfully donated to the house of the Lord by the congregation. As in the time of Nehemiah, and the building of the wall of Jerusalem, they all had a part to do. Those who were unable to work still played an important part, sharing with the others in completely paying off this debt in the comparatively short space of five years.



**Men working on building the church.**



**Starting to build the church.**

On November 25th, 1962, the lovely new church was dedicated to the Lord with Rev. T. Johnstone, General Superintendent, former pastor Rev. J. G. McElhoes, and Pastor Holmes, along with others, present for the occasion. The previous Saturday evening a band concert was held featuring the Central Gospel Tabernacle Band of Hamilton and then three services on Sunday.



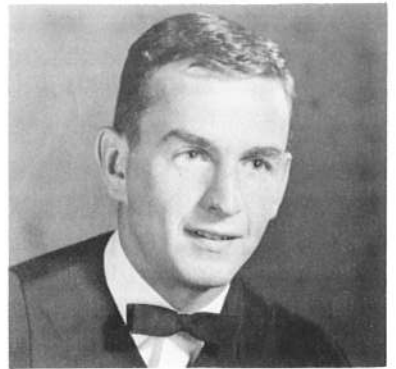
**Our new Church.**



**Dedication of the Church, 1962.**

Platform chairs were donated by Bro. & Sis. Robert Flumerfelt; desk and chairs for the Pastor's study by Bro. Lorne Michaelis; the communion table by Bro. Milton Code; the pulpit by Bro. & Sis. Elmore Michaelis and Bro. & Sis. Don Sly; the tone booster for the organ by Bro. Gordon Michaelis; while others gave financial support in the form of large sums of money. God's blessings far surpass anything we can give to Him.

Bro. Gaye Norrie, son of Earl and Dorothy Norrie, grew up in our church, being brought there by his parents regularly. Being an active young person he loved to play hockey, starting when he was seven years old and becoming an excellent player. He gave his heart to the Lord early in life and was filled with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He faithfully attended Sunday School and Church, endearing himself to his Sunday School teachers because he was attentive, taking a real interest in the lesson and being well behaved and reverent in the house of God. He earnestly sought God and soon felt the desire to attend Eastern Pentecostal Bible College. In 1966 he entered Bible School, where he met and married Elizabeth Douse in 1968. After graduating in 1969 they went to Summerside, Prince Edward Island, and pastored the church there. In the summer of 1972 they moved to pastor the work in Newbandon, New Brunswick, where they are at present endeavouring to build a new church. The following letter is to our church from Gaye:-



**Rev. Gaye Norrie.**

'Christian Greetings: The wisest man in the world said 'In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths'. Even as a young boy God played a major role in my life. Growing up in a Christian home and being reared in a Bible believing church, in which Christian Sunday School teachers taught me the truths of the Bible, has left a lasting impression.

As I look back, I feel, next to my home, my Sunday School teachers influenced my life the most. With the help of my parents, church and Sunday School teachers, they taught me that acknowledging God as over all things, and seeking things which are Christ-like, have been the key to my life; and I believe is the secret to a happy Christian life.

It is my desire that as I grow older I may always acknowledge God's way and I might always follow in His footsteps.

Yours in Christ,

Gaye Norrie'

A church library was started by Sis. Winnie Hardie and Sis. Margaret Michaelis and to-day we have a very fine assortment of Christian books. Sis. Winnie Hardie and Sis. Vera Boyd are in charge of the library at the present time.

Social evenings were often held in the parsonage with Pastor & Sis. Holmes and the folks enjoyed a lovely time of fellowship.

In the latter part of Pastor Holmes' ministry in Parry Sound he fought a constant battle with the enemy in regard to his health. He is much improved since then and we understand he is busily engaged in building a new church. In 1971 Pastor and Sis. Holmes moved to Leamington and Sis. Parmenter, a spirit-filled minister

of the gospel, well known to the congregation, came and took charge for a month until our present pastor arrived.

Pastor David Shepherd, his wife and two small children, Aimie and Jamie came in March, 1971. He has brought to our assembly a great desire to reach sinners in our area with the Gospel, as is evidenced by the many areas he has opened up to get the message to the people. Our assembly has progressed spiritually under his leadership. The aim of our Pentecostal Movement is to tell others the way of salvation and perhaps Pastor Shepherd's devotion to the work God has called him to do, could best be summed up in the words of his little daughter; while watching him talking to a group of people, she voiced the question 'I wonder what Daddy is talking to them about?' and she answered with 'Probably telling them about Jesus'.



**Rev. & Mrs. David Shepherd and family.**



**Pianists: Sitting, Dorothy Temple,  
Grace Anderson.**



**Organists: standing, Connie Shepherd,  
Gail Willett**



Receipiting Secretary - Irene Allen  
Secretary Treasurer - Jean Watkinson



Junior Choir: Left to right, Shelly Mortson, Ruth Raney, Karen Hardie, Cindy Willett, Mark Michaelis, Paula Willett, Cheryl Temple, Beverly Watkinson, Lorie Watkinson, Ricky Michaelis, Cora Lubbelinkhof, Jimmy Anderson, Bruce Langford, Ralph Watkinson, Randy Rosewell, Danny Rosewell, Paul Lubbelinkhof, Dorothy Temple.



Ushers, left to right: back row, Larry Felsman, Clark Temple, Head Usher Doug Langford; front row, Glenn Temple, Ralph Felsman, Ollie Constable.



Left to right: Secretary Dorothy Norrie, Treasurer Gwen Rosewell, President Gladys Anderson, Vice-President Elnora Felsman.



Young Peoples Executive: Richard Lubbelinkhof, Cora Lubbelinkhof, Glen Michaelis.



Pastor Shepherd: The Living Waters Broadcast over C.K.A.R. Radio.



Cruising for Christ boat on its way to hold service at Kilbear Park.



Junior Sunday School Department in lower auditorium.



Senior Sunday School Department





Librarians: Enid Michaelis, Margaret Michaelis, Vera Boyd, Winnie Hardie.



Executive for Mens Fellowship:  
Cecil Mintz, Douglas Langford,  
Murray Michaelis.



Members who have held different offices down through the years: Left to right, Jean Wakinson, Norma Keowan, Viola Haskim, Elsenie Shurr, Sue Mortson, Gail Willett, George Watkinson, Elmore Michaelis, Margaret Michaelis, Marjorie Parton, Albert Parton, Alfred Hardie, Earl Norrie, Paul Willett, Glen Temple.



Sunday School Staff: Left to right, Elnora Felsman, Pastor Shepherd, Doug Mortson, Blake Shurr, Harry Temple, Aleta Constable, Valone Sly, Jane Deveton, Dora Downey, Grace Temple, Gladys Anderson, Iris McNamara, Enid Michaelis, Dorothy Norrie, Cora Temple, Geraldine Langford, Winnie Hardie, Cora Lubbelinkhof, Sonya Lubbelinkhof, Connie Shepherd, Murray Michaelis, Joe Deveton, Donald Sly, Ollie Constable, Glenn Michaelis.



**Drive in Church Service Dominion Store Parking lot.**



**Morning Worship Service**



**Church board and trustees: Jack McDonald, Jack Willett, Harry Temple, Joe Deveton, Pastor Shepherd, Ralph Felsman, Don Sly, Murray Michaelis, Blake Schurr, Aubrey Anderson.**



**Senior Choir; Left to right, Sue Mortson, Gail Willett, Susan Michaelis, Diane Betts, Peter Spadziniski, Marilyn Temple, Aleta Constable, Gwen Rosewell, Steven Langford, Cora Lubbelinkhof, June Michaelis, Connie Shepherd, Sonya Lubbelinkhof, Alice McDowell, Sonya Lubbelinkhof, Alice McDowell, Gary Temple, Timmy Felsman, Grant Felsman, Lawrenc Rosewell, Glenn Michaelis, Phillip Michaelis, Larry Felsman, Donnie Hardie, Murray Michaelis, Donnie Temple.**



Past Leaders in several departments. Standing; left to right: Wes Boyd, Garnet Michaelis. Seated; left to right: Eunice Morris, Edna Smith, Mrs. Wes Boyd, Mrs. Garnet Michaelis.



Garnet Michaelis and Alice Mortson attended the first Sunday School class held in the church.

Members in the church today who attended fifty years ago.



The Sunday School attendance is increasing and this year a very enjoyable picnic was held at Foley School Grounds. This has been an annual affair almost since the beginning of our church. Some were held at Bower's Bay or Beach Bays as it is known today, Mill Lake, Otter Lake, Rose Point, back of Geo. Hunt's farm, Oastler Park and Bell Lake. All of them have been well attended and were a time of relaxation and enjoyment of God's great outdoors.

Four of our young people have left us this year to attend Bible School--Sisters Linda Secord, Susan Michaelis, Beverley Langford, and Brother David Michaelis. Our prayers go with them that God, wherever He leads them, will make them a blessing and use them for His glory. We will miss them just as we did the former ones who went to Bible School such as Earl Norrie, Aubrey Anderson, Gladys Anderson (nee Hunt), Irene Pugh (nee Bennett), Shirley Deveton, Jo Anne Deveton, and those mentioned previously.

Throughout the years Satan has tried many times with every means at his disposal to disrupt, discredit and overthrow this work of the Lord. 'What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us.' Rom. 8:31. God has brought us through victorious and as long as we continue to hold up Jesus He will defeat the enemy and make us more than conquerors through Him that loved us. Great is our God, and greatly to be praised.

Many dedicated men and women have ministered to us from our pulpit over the years; some pastors, some filling in during our pastor's absence, some for just a night or two and some to conduct evangelistic campaigns. Among them was our recently departed Bro. J. H. Blair, whose many visits endeared him to the hearts of all who were privileged to know him. It is impossible to list every name, but all have proclaimed the good news of the gospel and have been instrumental through the power of the Holy Spirit in adding to our numbers such as would be saved.



As we have read and learned of the ministries of past Pastors our hearts have been blessed and inspired with what God has done.

We count it a privilege to be chosen by God to guide this congregation during this period of its history. We believe the outreach program and the possibilities of evangelism have never been greater in the history of our assembly. We firmly believe, if Jesus tarries, the chapter that is yet to be written will be one of the most exciting in its history. I know that if the present spirit of unity and desire for God's best continue to grow in the hearts of God's people we will experience a rich and wonderful outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We invite you to believe God with us for the future as Paul the apostle challenged us in Philippians chapter 3 verses 13 to 15.

We are sorry we can't remember all of the musicians, the singers, the Sunday School workers, the builders and the many who gave of their time and talents in the work of the Lord but this we do know, God keeps a perfect record and someday when the books are opened everyone shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

Please forgive us if we have failed to mention someone who should have been included.



**Valone Sly, Eunice Morris, Viola Haskim**



*The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada*

10 OVERLEA BOULEVARD, TORONTO 17, ONTARIO  
TELEPHONE 425-1010 (AREA CODE 416)

R. W. TAITINGER  
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

TO THE PARRY SOUND PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY.

On behalf of the entire family of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, it gives me much pleasure to bring greetings and sincere congratulations to the Parry Sound assembly on the occasion of your 60th anniversary.

Through these many years your church has been blessed by the leadership of some of our finest pastors. As one of the oldest churches in Canada, the Parry Sound assembly has stood as a bastion of Pentecost and a lighthouse of gospel truth. This day simply enhances the faithful testimony of people of vision, personal involvement and obedience to God's plan and purpose spiritually for your community.

The present decade is one of revival and charismatic visitation in almost every part of the world. God is doing a new thing. The bride is preparing for the coming of the Bridegroom. The church is under marching orders, and in this day of unusual blessing, the great commission still requires utmost dedication to the task of winning the lost and to the glorious hope of His appearing.

May God grant to the pastor and people of Parry Sound Pentecostal Tabernacle a continuing sense of His guiding presence and the joy of meaningful service to Christ in these last days.

Sincerely yours,

R. W. Taitinger,  
General Superintendent.

RWT:jrb



*The*  
**Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada**  
**Western Ontario District**

664 FENNEL AVENUE, EAST - HAMILTON, ONT.

TELEPHONE  
383-8745

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
D. A. EMMONS

September 15, 1972

Rev. David A. Shepherd,  
Pentecostal Tabernacle,  
25 Church Street,  
Parry Sound, Ontario

Dear Pastor Shepherd:

On behalf of our District Superintendent and the members of the Western Ontario District Executive I would like to extend to you, your official church board and the members of your congregation, our sincere congratulations on the occasion of your church's Sixtieth Anniversary during the days of October 27, 28 and 29.

The Parry Sound congregation has made a tremendous contribution to the world-wide outreach of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada throughout the years. We look upon you as being one of our very finest assemblies, and it is our prayer that God will bless you in an even greater measure as we work together for the salvation of souls under the shadow of our soon-coming Redeemer.

May God bless each Anniversary service with His presence.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*H. D. Honsinger*  
(Rev.) H. D. Honsinger,  
Assistant District Superintendent.

HH:jg





Office of the Mayor  
Parry Sound, Ont.

September 26, 1972.

Rev. David Shepherd,  
Pastor,  
Pentecostal Church,  
25 Church Street,  
Parry Sound, Ontario.

Dear Rev. Shepherd:

It is a pleasure to extend to you and your congregation, congratulations on your 60th Anniversary.

As our Town has grown over these years, your spiritual contribution has been of great value.

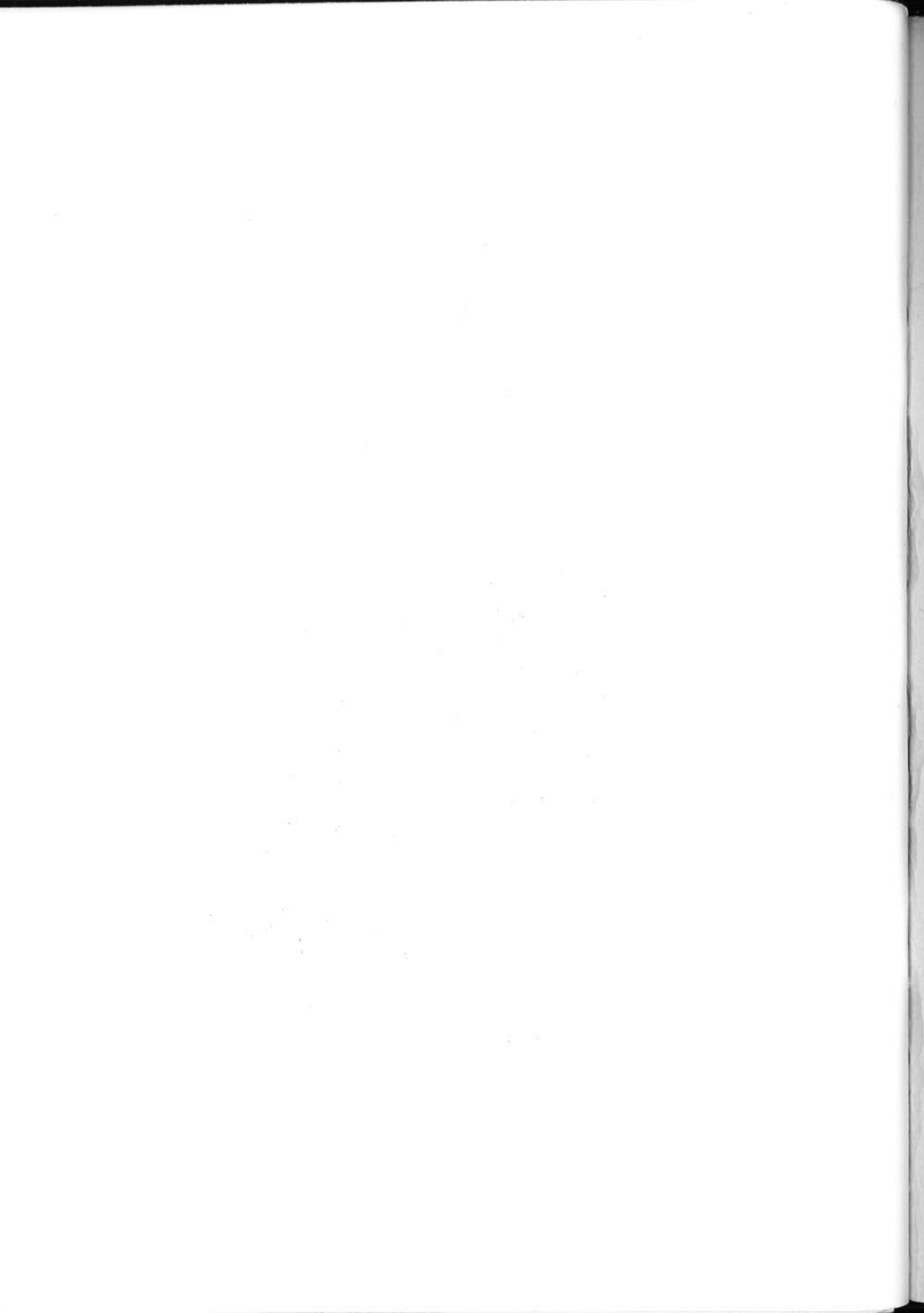
With God's blessing, I hope that your church, and its membership, will continue to grow, and play an even greater part in our future.

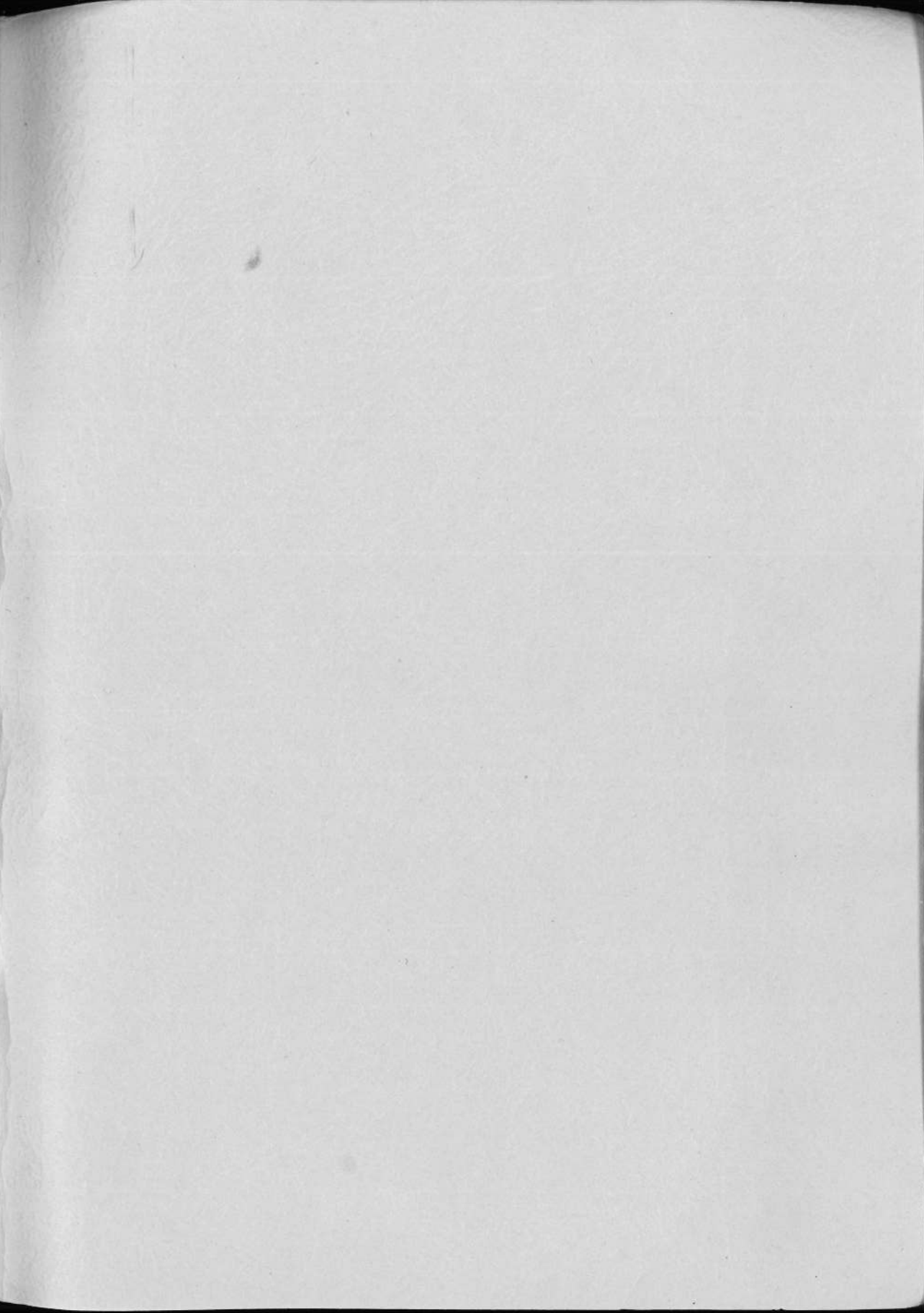
Yours very truly,  
TOWN OF PARRY SOUND,

*E. Roy Smith*

E. Roy Smith,  
Mayor.

ERS:da







**PARRY SOUND PRINTING  
& OFFICE SUPPLIES**

BOX 366 PARRY SOUND ONTARIO